LEAFS VAGUE ON BURKE'S DUCK-OUT, PG 18

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Style pg 38

Pro tips for going glam for the holidays

Grieving Crisp family sets up trust

RUNAWAY The grieving family of a central Ontario teen who was found dead after running away from home has set up a foundation to help underprivileged children play minor sports.

Brandon Crisp, 15, ran away from his Barrie home on Oct. 13 after arguing with his parents over his Xbox. His body was found last Wednesday and an autopsy concluded he died after falling from a tree.

"We take great comfort in our time of grief, knowing that his story has and will continue to have a profound impact on parents and children alike, that more time will be made by families to share precious time together," the Crisp family said in a statement.

An interim account is set up at the CIBC as the Brandon Crisp Trust Account. Donations can be made at any branch. Crisp's funeral mass is set for tomorrow at St. Mary's Church in Barrie.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ShareYourViews
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Metro Homes pg 22

Décor gets in high gear

Food pg 36

Suave, sexy appetizers

AARON HARRIS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Students sit outside C.W. Jefferys Collegiate Institute yesterday. The family of a 16-year-old stabbed in the school's cafeteria says the victim knows the identity of the attacker but is staying silent.

Stabbed student mum on attacker

C.W. JEFFERYS He was stabbed in his high school cafeteria and left bleeding and reeling from a gaping wound, but 16-year-old Daniel Anderson won't say who did it.

His six-foot frame bent slightly at the waist, he shuffled into a hospital waiting room yesterday, an IV tube in hand. He sat next to his mother, who had tears on her cheeks.

"This is a huge, big deal," she said. "I want these guys who attacked him to be caught."

But her son is not talking.

The Grade 11 student at C.W. Jefferys Collegiate Institute has been silent since the incident Tuesday when, his family explained, someone "who walked into the school off the street" plunged a sharp object into his abdomen.

Anderson knows the identity of the assailant, his family said. But he won't tell them, and he's not cooperating with police.

Detectives are reviewing surveillance video from two cameras in the school's cafeteria and are appealing for witnesses to come forward.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 3

Big Three bailout... Not so fast

Flaherty touts $50B for banks, conveys auto industry doubts

Ottawa moved to bolster the financial system by adding $50 billion to a plan to purchase mortgages from the big banks, but federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty signalled the government's reservations about aid for the auto industry.

Despite global recognition that Canada's banks are so far weathering the credit storm better than most, Flaherty said the measures announced yesterday are needed to maintain financial strength.

"The government of Canada is prepared to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure that Canada's strong financial system is not put at a competitive disadvantage by developments in other countries," he said.

The mortgage purchases, which now total $75 billion, free up liquidity on the balance sheets, helping them maintain capital ratios.

But as Flaherty announced support for banks, he stirred controversy in another sector, saying people in his Whitby-Oshawa riding are urging Ottawa not to bail out the Big Three North American automakers as they may not survive.

"There are many people saying we should do something with respect to the auto sector. But I can tell you, even in my own riding ..., which is the home of General Motors of Canada, there are also people who say don't do anything — don't use my tax money to bail out an enterprise that may not survive," Flaherty said. "We have money available for innovation, transformational money if I can call it that, because at the end of the day we need car-makers who are making cars that people want to buy, so that there's demand. And there's a challenge there."

His comments appeared to contradict the positive message from the first ministers' meeting. But an aide to Prime Minister Stephen Harper said Flaherty's remarks are consistent with the government's position.

"We're not slamming the door shut to proposals from the auto sector or other sectors," the aide said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mortgage risk

- With $75 billion in bought-up mortgages, the government stands to profit if the housing market avoids a U.S.-style meltdown, but analysts said it would have to absorb losses if Canada enters a prolonged recession that triggers widespread defaults on mortgages.

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Gun found in vehicle after traffic stop
A 35-year-old man faces seven charges after officers from Toronto's anti-violence rapid response team stopped a car Tuesday in the Black Creek Drive and Jane Street area and found a .45-calibre gun in the vehicle. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local

Brother's visa extended

The brother of an Indian immigrant killed in this summer's Sunrise Propane explosion in Toronto will be granted an extension of his visitor's visa to stay in Canada to tie up loose ends left by his brother's death, says a spokesperson for Immigration Minister Jason Kenney. Vikramjit Singh Saini will be granted a multiple-entry temporary resident permit for one year.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Tomorrow's Metro

Movies

Rick McGinnis reviews Quantum of Solace.

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Lotteries

Lotto 6/49: 12, 30, 34, 38, 39 & 43. Bonus 36; **Ontario 49:** 14, 18, 19, 31, 41 & 42. Bonus 4; **Ontario Pick 3:** 1 4 3; **Encore:** 7130041; **Daily Keno:** 2, 3, 4, 6, 12, 16, 17, 25, 31, 32, 40, 42, 43, 46, 53, 54, 59, 63, 64, 70.
These results are not official.

Get serious, board told

Done what we can: Trustees

In September, barely three weeks into the school year, a student was shot outside Bendale BTI. In October, a teen was stabbed at Don Mills Collegiate.

On Tuesday, a student was stabbed at C.W. Jefferys, the same school where Jordan Manners was shot to death a year and a half ago.

Yesterday, the head of the high school teachers' union called on the board to get serious about tackling safety issues.

"This is a very sad but all-too-common occurrence," said Doug Jolliffe, president of District 12 of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation, of the stabbing at Jefferys.

A safety panel report released in January recommended many steps for the board to take. So far, it has conducted a safety audit at Jefferys, established a student hotline and added support staff such as psychologists and counsellors in schools, as well as programming for troubled students.

"This is a very sad but all-too-common occurrence."
Doug Jolliffe

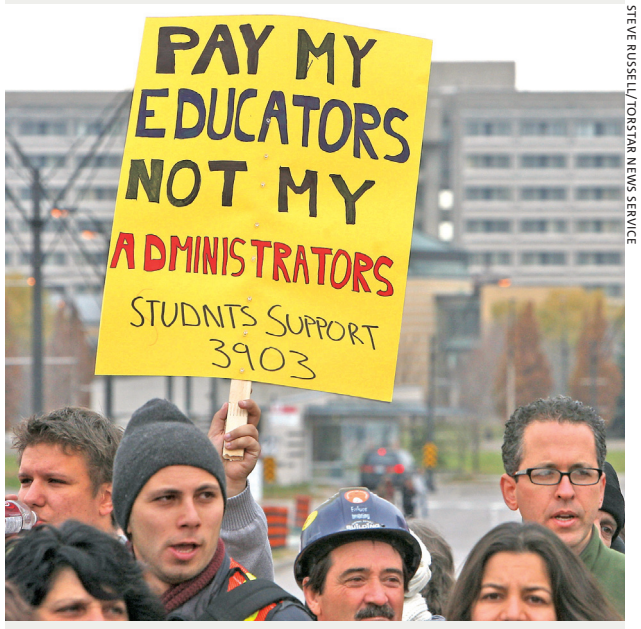
But most of the recommendations have not materialized, Jolliffe said.

Trustees say they've done what they can with the funding available.

"We did put some measures in place … but are we there yet? Not even close," said trustee Cathy Dandy, who heads the board's school safety committee.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

York U **Students go home**



STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Strikers and supporters rally yesterday at York University's entrance. For the 2,600 students living on campus, the strike has disrupted their home life as well as studies. As an exodus of students moves home to save on meals and pick up work, many who've stayed behind say they feel increasingly isolated.

Reprieve for coffee shops

WASTE Coffee shops will get a second chance to come up with a plan to curb a flood of throw-away paper cups. But councillors want to move on another proposal that will require all stores to give customers a refund if they bring their own bags. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Stabbing shocks area residents

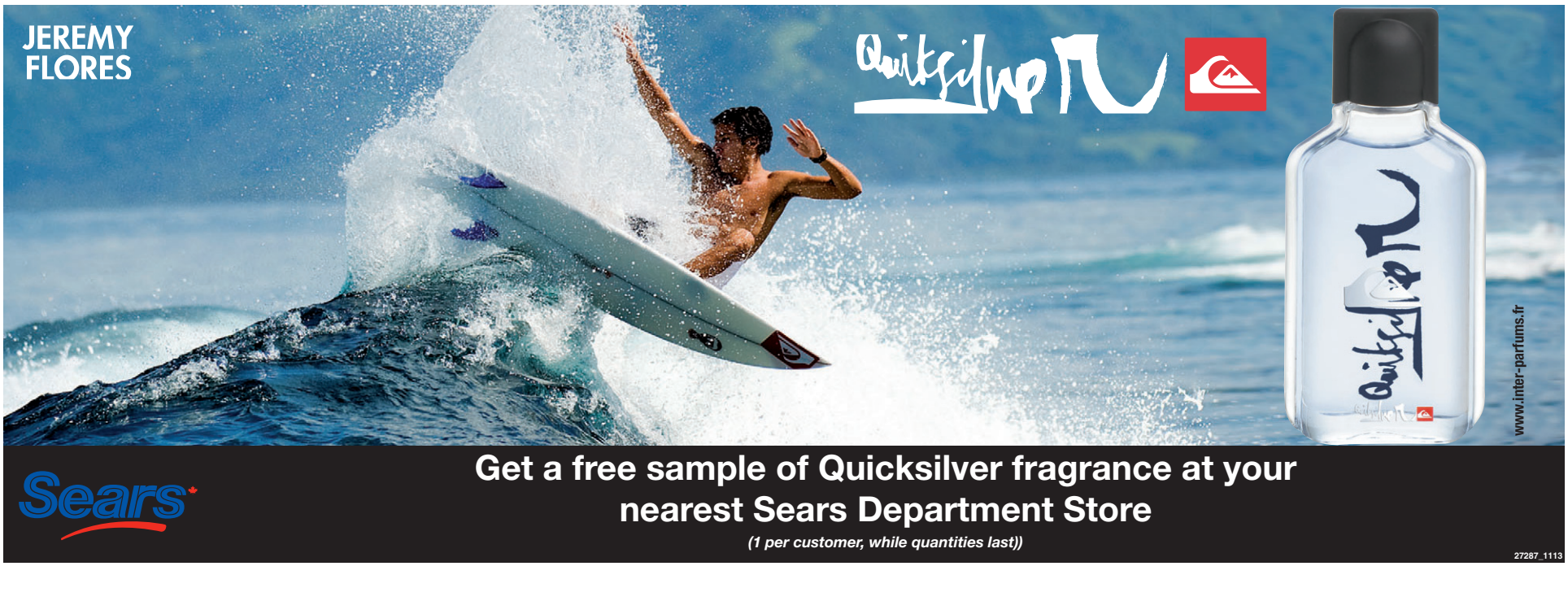
After Jordan Manners was gunned down inside C.W. Jefferys Collegiate Institute last year, the Warrens decided their 13-year-old son wouldn't go to the school.

After a 16-year-old student was stabbed Tuesday, the couple now wants to move out of the neighbourhood.

A day after the stabbing, area residents were shocked and angry that nothing seemed to have changed at the school, more than a year after Manners was killed. Many said more security at the school was crucial for the safety of the students, staff and neighbours and could have prevented Tuesday's stabbing. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Officers

- After Manners was killed in May 2007, the Toronto District School Board allotted the school 32 surveillance cameras and an additional hall monitor. But no police officers.



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Girl struck, dragged A 12-year-old girl was injured when a car struck and dragged her nearly 30 metres yesterday. Police said she was running across Eglinton Avenue West and the driver will likely not be charged. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Guilty verdict in hit-and-run

Driver convicted of manslaughter but found not guilty of intentionally killing 21-year-old

A Toronto man has been found guilty of manslaughter in a deadly hit-and-run at a Brampton intersection more than two years ago

Andrew Harris, 26, remains in custody. He will be sentenced by Madame Justice Francine Van Melle on Dec. 8.

In reaching their verdict last night in a Brampton courtroom, jurors found Harris not guilty of second-degree murder in the Aug. 5, 2006, death of Christy-mayooran Anton-Pious. The verdict, reached after about four hours of deliberation, means they believed Harris never intended to kill the 21-year-old Brampton man when he struck and killed him in the early hours of that civic holiday weekend.

It was the Crown's case that Harris had committed a road-rage murder in that he deliberately used his Acura as a weapon to strike and kill Anton-Pious. But the 11 men and one woman on the jury weren't swayed by Crown prosecutor John Raftery's arguments during the four-week trial.

Defence lawyer Tom Dungey never called any witnesses. It was agreed that Harris struck and killed Anton-Pious, but that it was an accident.

But he pleaded not guilty to second-degree murder.

The victim was one of five people in a GMC Envoy who threw water bottles at the accused man's car after the Envoy was involved in a chase with the Acura earlier in the night. Anton-Pious suffered multiple injuries to his body, including a fractured skull and a lacerated aorta. Jurors heard he was struck from behind.

Raftery said Harris drove at Anton-Pious to get revenge for having bottles thrown at his new car.

Dungey insisted Harris accidentally struck and killed Anton-Pious when he swerved through a Brampton intersection at 4 a.m. to avoid the victim and his friends, who were armed with tire irons and blocking the road.

The jury heard Harris drove his Acura through the intersection toward the men, forcing one of them to jump aside. Instead of continuing south, he made a U-turn around a traffic island and drove north, back toward Anton-Pious and his friends.

Raftery urged jurors not to believe that Harris, being fearful, accidentally hit Anton-Pious, or that his death occurred during self-defence manoeuvres.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Two previous trials ended in mistrial

- Jurors know this is the third time Harris has been on trial because of two previous mistrials. They don't know Madame Justice Francine Van Melle declared the mistrials because Harris' previous lawyer Karen Cosgrove was impaired and has since been cited for contempt of court.

Jewelry worth $1M stolen from Bronfman home

THEFT Two Stanley Cup rings from the 1970s are among jewelry worth more than $1 million that has been stolen from the Forest Hill home of one of Canada's wealthiest families, Toronto police say.

According to police, about 59 items including the rings and a third ring worth $350,000 were taken from a home in the Bathurst Street and St. Clair Avenue West area during a break-in last weekend. The house is owned by a member of the Bronfman family.

Det. Lisa Benoit did not identify which family members owned the home or its exact location. She said the items stolen were mainly rings, necklaces, bracelets and earrings, with some of the diamonds as large as 5 to 6 carats. The other stones included pearls, rubies and sapphires.

Two of the rings were from the 1974 and 1976 Stanley Cup champion Montreal Canadiens, a team then owned by Peter and Edward Bronfman. The family name was engraved on the side of the rings.

Benoit said the property was entered between 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. Saturday while the family was out. The culprits broke through a second-storey side window at the house without a ladder and took a 90-kilogram (200-pound) safe.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Security video

- Det. Const. Frank Lazzaro said they couldn't estimate how many robbers were involved but they are reviewing security video and canvassing the area for leads.

Home invasions believed cases of mistaken identity

POLICE Police say two apparently unconnected home invasions that left one homeowner shot in the leg and another jolted with a Taser might both be cases of mistaken identity.

Just before 2 a.m. Monday in Ajax, two men forced their way into a home on Chalmers Court, near Harwood Avenue South and Kingston Road East. The homeowner was shot during the resulting fight.

"Investigators believe this may have been a case of mistaken identity," said police spokesperson Dave Selby in a press release.

A day later, three masked men barged into a home in Oshawa's Adelaide Avenue and Ritson Road North area. Three men in the house began to fight with the intruders. One resident was Tasered.

"Some comments were made by the suspects as they left," said Det. Rob Moore. "They were under the impression it was a drug house, which isn't the case."

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Man caught trying to smuggle money into U.S.
A 32-year-old Burlington man is charged with trying to smuggle almost $500,000 in U.S. currency into Buffalo, American customs officials said. The man was driving across the Peace Bridge border Monday in a Honda Pilot. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tribunal date for nursing mom

If anyone needs a sign of how to best to handle the issue of breastfeeding in public, just step into any public pool in Hamilton, says mom Shannon Wray.

For years now, signs have been posted around city-run pools warning that first priority for deck chairs goes to nursing moms and "Staff will not request breastfeeding mothers to move to a specific area within or outside the pool area."

So Wray was shocked yesterday to read about Cinira Longuinho, who was asked to leave the pool of Newmarket's AquaCenter Swim School Oct. 24, where she was nursing her 20-month-old daughter, Camilla, on the steps.

"For supporters, like myself, of breastfeeding and human rights, it's a redundant issue. When I heard about this I thought: This is still happening?" Wray said yesterday. "I can't believe it, because there's way more information out there now on the benefits of breastfeeding than there was 11 years ago."

Longuinho has an appointment with lawyers for the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal on Dec. 15 and intends to press ahead with a claim of discrimination before the tribunal.

"I think it's really important for women in the future. I don't think anyone should feel the way I felt on that day," she said yesterday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Creba shooting witness says man boasted he had a gun

TRIAL The Boxing Day shootout that killed schoolgirl Jane Creba was sparked by a gunman in a "Stop Snitching" T-shirt boasting that he had a large-calibre pistol, a young woman says.

"He says, 'Are these your boys? 'cause these are my boys and I've got a .357,'" the 18-year-old witness told a murder trial yesterday.

Hidden in his coat was the handgun with its silver barrel peeking out, she said.

"I was frozen there. I was looking at the gun," the woman, who cannot be named, told prosecutor Kerry Hughes.

"He started shooting," she said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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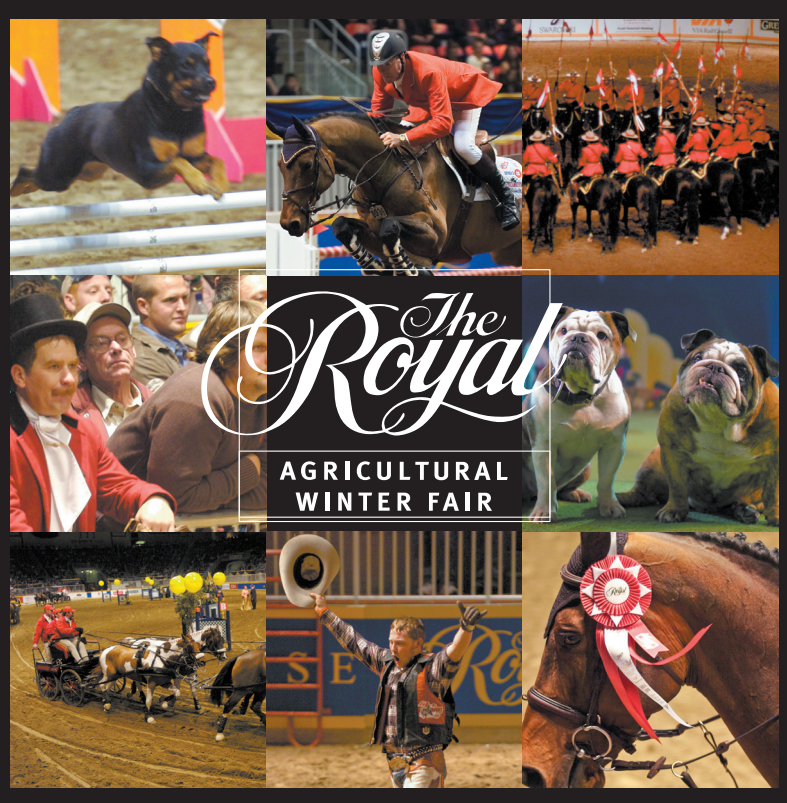

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First Nations and province to work together
In wake of the Ipperwash tragedy, a permanent round-table discussion has been established to "rebuild relationships" and promote peaceful dialogue between the Ontario government and First Nations people. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Canada

Pension fund loses $10B

The Canada Pension Plan fund said yesterday it ended its latest quarter with a loss of more than $10 billion in the value of its assets, primarily because of the stock market turmoil that has battered share prices around the world. THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Dying is not an option'

CBC journalist Mellissa Fung relied on her instincts to survive a month-long kidnapping in Afghanistan, hiding a cellphone from her abductors, making them promise she wouldn't be killed, faking sick to speed up negotiations for her release and telling herself: "Dying is not an option."

Fung, 35, had just finished interviewing Afghan refugees on Oct. 12, when armed men jumped out of a car and grabbed her.

She tried to fight back and hit one of the kidnappers. They stabbed her in the shoulder.

Fung was released Saturday after being held for a month.

She spoke to the CBC yesterday about the experience during an hour-long interview in an undisclosed location overseas. Held down on the floor of a car just minutes after her abduction, bleeding from the stab wound on her shoulder, Fung didn't know where she was going or who was taking her there. "That was one of the scariest moments," she said. But the kidnappers told her they would not kill her and despite being stabbed, she was treated relatively well during her captivity. "They were really concerned about my stab wound," she said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/COURTESY CBC

Canadian journalist Mellissa Fung, recently released by her Afghani kidnappers, spoke to the CBC yesterday.

Fung's diet

• Fung said she was fed a steady diet of pomegranate juice and cookies. "I think I have two cavities," she said, after such a sugary stream of food and not being able to brush her teeth for a month.

Ignatieff set to declare Liberal candidacy today

Liberal MP Michael Ignatieff will today officially announce he's running for the Liberal leadership, even as another contender says a "generational change" in the leadership is urgently needed to reconnect the party with Canadians.

Ignatieff, the party's deputy leader, plans a morning news conference in Ottawa to confirm he will run again for the prize that he narrowly lost to current leader Stéphane Dion nearly two years ago.

Three other possible contenders for Dion's job, David McGuinty, Gerard Kennedy and Denis Coderre, yesterday announced they would not seek the leadership.

Ignatieff's move comes as New Brunswick MP Dominic LeBlanc lays the groundwork for his own leadership bid, including an opinion piece published yesterday that argues change is needed to turn around a Liberal party that he says has lost touch with Quebec and Western Canada, rural voters, New Canadians and young people.

> **"We must reconnect with Canadians. We must excite people once more about the promise of politics."**
> MP Dominic LeBlanc

The 40-year-old LeBlanc says it's time for a "younger, more energized leader" and points to the example of Tony Blair's success in Britain and Barack Obama's successful run to be U.S. president

"They turned to a new and young generation to lead the way. And they won," LeBlanc wrote in an article that appeared in La Presse.

"This is no time for tentative steps. A giant stride is needed ... We must reconnect with Canadians. We must excite people once more about the promise of politics and that is a task for a new generation," LeBlanc said.

Mississauga South MP Paul Szabo, one of Ignatieff's supporters, said yesterday he intends to support the Toronto MP again.

"Everyone knows that we'll want to come out of this with momentum and strength and clarity and a team that can form a government," Szabo said.

Ignatieff, the former Harvard professor, author and MP for Etobicoke-Lakeshore, and Toronto Centre MP Bob Rae are seen as the front-runners in a race that so far has seen more candidates opt out rather than jump in.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

AIRLINES Canadian pilots are calling for better labelling on laser pointers and tougher penalties for those caught beaming the blinding lights at airplanes after incidents doubled over the last year.

WAR A suicide bomber driving an oil tanker detonated explosives outside an Afghan office during a provincial council meeting, killing at least six people. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Harper to look ahead at G20 summit

Prime Minister Stephen Harper will press for the world's major industrial and developing nations to take steps to stimulate the hard-hit global economy when he meets with leaders of the Group of 20 countries in Washington, D.C., this weekend.

An aide to Harper said the prime minister wants leaders to concentrate on how to pull the world out of its economic slump — the worst in many decades — rather than focus on "rear view mirror" issues of how the international financial meltdown came about.

"I think for most countries who are suffering from a global economic slowdown, or trying to prevent themselves from falling into a recession, the more urgent focus is around getting the global economy growing again," said the aide, who briefed reporters on condition of anonymity.

Harper flies to Washington tomorrow for the two-day emergency meeting called by U.S. President George W. Bush. In addition to Canada, the U.S., and other members of the Group of 7 industrial countries, leaders of such large emerging economies as China, India and Brazil will take part in the unprecedented gathering.

Harper is not planning to hold bilateral meetings with other G20 leaders because of the packed weekend schedule in Washington. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Conservatives to discuss future

MEETING Conservative party members will gather in Winnipeg today for a policy convention that is more homework exercise than in-depth look at what the party stands for.

The policy book approved over the next few days will define how grassroots members perceive their party.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Shortage of ships and money blamed for crash
Money and equipment woes in the Canadian Forces are cited in an official report on the crash of a military Sea King off Denmark more than two years ago. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ottawa **Decking the Hill**

TRACEY TONG/METRO CANADA

Workers began stringing LED lights at Parliament Hill yesterday. Over the next several weeks, more than 200,000 lights will be strung along Confederation Boulevard for the holiday season.

Mothers feel 'betrayed'

RCMP decide not to press charges in school bus crash

Two mothers who lost their sons in a van crash that killed eight people — including seven members of a high school basketball team — in New Brunswick say they feel abandoned and betrayed after the RCMP decided not to lay charges in the accident.

"I feel that the school, the system and the government turned their backs on our boys after 43 weeks, and I can't let it go," said Isabelle Hains, whose son Daniel, 17, died in the accident 10 months ago on a slush-covered highway in light freezing rain just outside of Bathurst.

"We all feel like we were robbed by the school — our children were taken from us because we trusted them to make sure those vehicles were safe, we trusted them to make a decision that when the weather conditions are there that they would keep them safe in a motel."

"They neglect my son. They neglect all the children that were put in there ... It's just another slap in the face."
Anna Acevedo, mother

Seven members of the Bathurst High School basketball team and the coach's wife, Beth Lord, 51, died when the 11-year-old van skidded on a slushy highway and collided with an oncoming transport truck early in the morning of Jan. 12. They were returning from a night game in Moncton, N.B.

Separate reports by the RCMP and Transport Canada identified safety problems with the van, including worn all-season tires.

The Transport Canada report also questioned the length of time — 16 hours — the driver of the 15-seat van had been working that day.

Anna Acevedo lost her 17-year-old son Javier in the crash and said she was heartbroken to learn that no one would be charged in the case that devastated the small community and attracted international attention.

"I feel betrayed," she said. "They neglect my son. They neglect all the children that were put in there. ... It's just another slap in the face."

Insp. Roland Wells said safety problems with the van and the failure by six of those who died to wear seatbelts do not warrant criminal charges, and it would serve no purpose to lay charges under any motor vehicle laws that might have been broken.

"Our main concern here was, was there criminal responsibility for this collision?" he said at a news conference.

"My personal feeling is that it would be an insult to the memory of those persons who lost their lives for us to think that we could deal with this in terms of a traffic ticket. I don't think that's a reasonable approach."

Coach and teacher Wayne Lord, who was driving the van, his daughter and two other team members survived the crash.

Five of the boys who died — Nathan Cleland, Justin Cormier, Codey Branch, Hains and Acevedo — were 17 years old. The other two students were Nick Quinn, 16, and Nicholas Kelly, 15.

The basketball team was only minutes from home when the accident happened.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada, U.S. condemn Myanmar

SENTENCING Canada and the United States condemned the military regime of Myanmar yesterday for sentencing more than 20 pro-democracy activists to long prison terms at closed-door trials.

Fourteen people from the Generation 88 Students group received 65-year terms, while 10 members of the opposition National League for Democracy were given eight to 24 years. "Freedom ... and the rule of law are values fundamental to Canada's foreign policy," said Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Finger-pointing over health-care spending marks Quebec election

VOTE There were no long waiting times Wednesday when Quebec's political party leaders began assigning blame for the problems in the province's health-care system.

It was clear to Premier Jean Charest that the fault lies mainly with Parti Quebecois Leader Pauline Marois and the previous PQ governments in which she served.

However, Marois insisted that Charest is to blame, having squandered his time in government since 2003 by not keeping promises to ease emergency room crowding and cut wait times.

"He did not solve the problems," Marois said in Longueuil, Que.

The recriminations began flying as a poll suggested that Quebecers believe health care, and not the economy, is the No. 1 issue in the campaign for the Dec. 8 election. Campaigning in the Beauce region, Charest said his government has been working for the last five years to "clean up the mess" left behind by Marois when she was a cabinet minister.

Marois, he insisted, "is the source of the problems we're living with in the health-care system."

Charest pointed out that Marois, who served in key roles as health and finance minister in various PQ governments, was responsible for thousands of doctors and nurses being encouraged to take early retirement in the 1990s, leaving the system strapped. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Election face-off

- Marois, Dumont and Charest will get a chance to square off face-to-face on Nov. 25 now that an agreement has been reached on a format for a televised debate.

Seventh shoe with possible remains found on B.C. shore

JEFF HODSON
Metro Canada

Another running shoe with what police suspect are human remains inside has washed ashore in Richmond along the South Arm of the Fraser River, RCMP in Vancouver said yesterday.

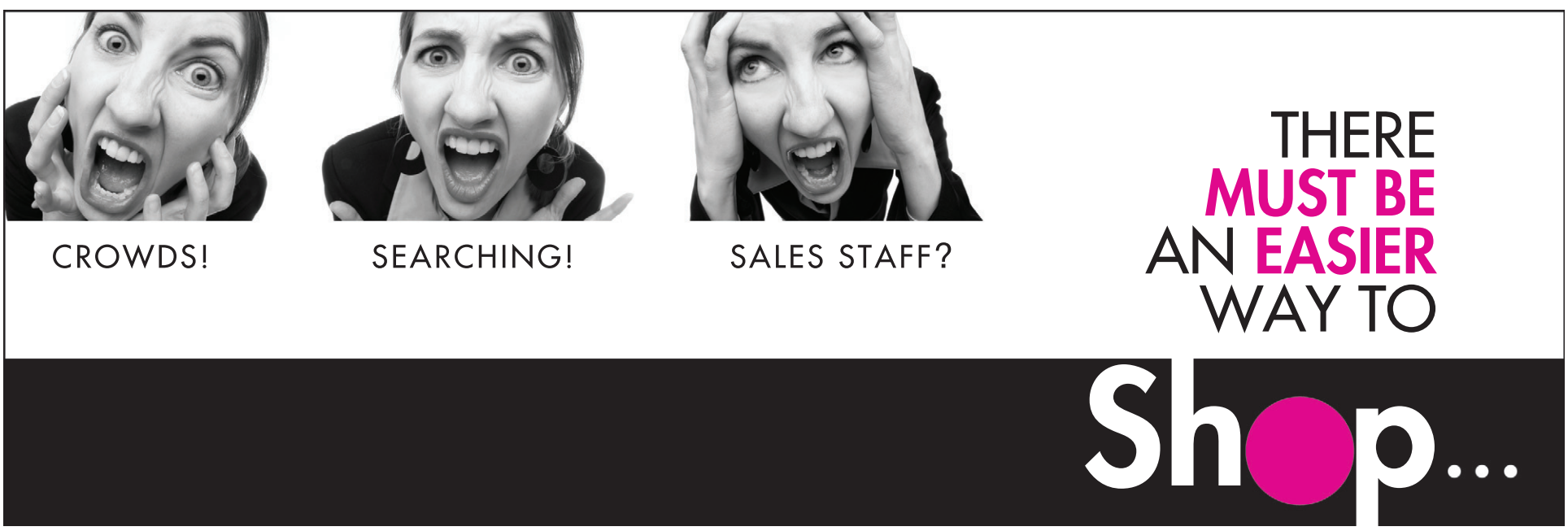
The left-foot New Balance running shoe was discovered by a Richmond couple on the bank of the Fraser at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday,

The shoe is the seventh shoe containing remains found along the Fraser River or Gulf Islands in the past 16 months, officials say.

The first five running shoes contained human feet. A sixth shoe, found near the Vancouver Island-town of Campbell River, B.C. in June, was a hoax.

Const. Annie Linteau, an RCMP spokeswoman, said in a release yesterday that because of the previous hoax, RCMP major crime investigators were proceeding with caution.

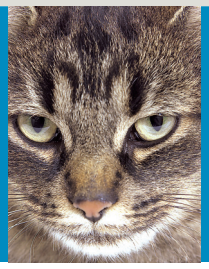
In the previous five shoes, investigators stressed that there was no evidence of foul play or that the feet were severed. Police said the feet became "disarticulated" from the ankle through decomposition.



North Korea to allow nuclear inspections

North Korea says it has agreed to let nuclear inspectors visit its main atomic complex and interview scientists. But it refuses to let them take samples as part of any verification checklist. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World



Missing cat found after 13 years

A California couple recently had an unexpected reunion with an old housemate: Their pet cat who went missing more than 13 years ago. The cat, named George, was last seen by Melinda Merman and Frank Walburg in 1995. He recently resurfaced when the manager of a mobile home park trapped the sickly feline and gave him to an animal hospital. A microchip implanted in George allowed him to be traced to his owners. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Iraqi soldier fires on Americans

Two dead, six wounded in 'premeditated' attack at military base

An Iraqi soldier sprayed automatic weapons fire at U.S. soldiers at an Iraqi military base in Mosul yesterday, killing two and wounding six before he died in a hail of bullets, an American general said.

In Baghdad, bombers struck the capital for a third straight day, killing 23 people and wounding scores in a string of attacks in mostly Shiite areas.

Maj.-Gen. Mark Hertling, commander of U.S. forces in northern Iraq, told The Associated Press the "premeditated" attack occurred in a courtyard as the soldiers waited for their two lieutenants to finish a meeting with an Iraqi army company commander.

Previous attack

• Last December, an Iraqi soldier allegedly shot and killed a U.S. captain and a sergeant during a joint operation in Mosul, where al Qaeda and other Sunni insurgent groups still operate.

Hertling, who said he had spoken with some of the wounded troops, disputed Iraqi accounts that the shooting followed a heated argument between the Iraqi soldier and the Americans.

Hertling said the attacker strolled into the courtyard carrying a Kalashnikov rifle and a drum of ammunition, walked to a corner, turned and opened fire.

"One shot was aimed and the rest was literally a spray," he said. "There was no argument, no spitting, no slapping, none of that occurred."

The six wounded American soldiers were expected to recover, Hertling said.

He said senior Iraqi army and police commanders in Mosul, 360 kilometres northwest of Baghdad, had expressed regret over the shooting and promised a joint investigation.

In Baghdad, Defence Ministry spokesman Maj.-Gen. Mohammed al-Askari said the shooting followed a quarrel at an Iraqi base in a volatile Sunni Arab neighbourhood in central Mosul. The Iraqi soldier was identified as Barzan al-Hadidi. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Italian boss wants U.S, Russia to talk

MEDIATE Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi is offering to mediate between Washington and Moscow to ease tensions over U.S. plans to station a missile shield in eastern Europe.

Berlusconi often boasts of his close friendship with Russian leader Vladimir Putin. He was close to U.S. President George W. Bush, and recently described U.S. president-elect Barack Obama as "young, handsome and even tanned."

Mormons blamed for anti-gay vote

MARRIAGE Supporters of gay marriage, frustrated over a ballot-box defeat in California, have channelled much of their anger toward the towering white spires of Mormon temples. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Palin confident in Obama's leadership

IRAQ Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin has given U.S. president-elect Barack Obama a conditional vote of confidence on handling the war in Iraq.

Palin, who has been granting a series of interviews this week, said she would feel comfortable with the Illinois Democrat as commander in chief so long as he surrounds himself with advisers who understand threats against the United States.

In an interview broadcast yesterday on NBC's Today show, Palin was asked whether she felt secure with the notion of Obama being in charge of national security.

"I'm comfortable with Barack Obama as our commander in chief."
Sarah Palin

She replied: "I'm comfortable with Barack Obama as our commander in chief, assuming that he has those around him who recognize … that terrorists have not changed their minds … Those who recognize what the threat is and how to deal with the threat."

Palin's oldest son, Track, is serving in Iraq.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Russia **Sub accident victims mourned**

VALERY SPIDLEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/RIA-NOVOSTI

People gather to attend a funeral yesterday of those who died in an accident aboard the Russian nuclear submarine Nerpa, in Komsomolsk-on-Amur, about 6,200 kilometres east of Moscow. Liquified gas asphyxiated and killed 20 civilians and naval personnel and hospitalized 21.

News in brief

NATO U.S. Defence Secretary Robert Gates will be at a NATO meeting of defence ministers in Estonia tomorrow. The main purpose is to talk with Ukraine about its effort to join NATO, which is currently stalled.

MISSILE Iran's defence minister says the military successfully test-fired a new generation of long-range missiles using solid fuel, making them more accurate than its predecessors.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Food + Entertaining

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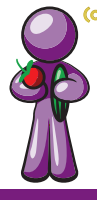
How to keep a full stomach on an empty wallet

When finances get tight, luxuries are the easiest and most obvious things to cut. However, what's not so obvious is how to cut spending on the essentials, such as food. But with the price of what we eat predicted to soar this year, it's well worth looking for ways to cut spending.

This year's increase could translate into hundreds of dollars for many families. The typical family of four spends more than $8,500 a year on food. Sharp increases in fuel and commodity prices take most of the blame, says the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

But there are many things a family can do to cut food costs that involve more planning than sacrifice. "The first one is start paying attention to what you throw away," says Beverly Mills, one of the authors of the cookbook, "Cheap. Fast. Good!" "The most expensive food you buy is the food you don't eat."

(continued online...)



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23 dead, nine injured in crash in South Africa
South African police say a truck carrying workers was hit by a larger truck, causing both trucks to roll into a ditch, killing at least 23 people and injuring nine. Emergency workers are still searching for trapped passengers. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fatal shooting

Florida student, 15, shot in school hallway

A 15-year-old girl was charged with fatally shooting another student during an argument yesterday at a Fort Lauderdale high school.

Teah Wimberly was charged with first-degree murder and discharging a weapon on school property, Fort Lauderdale police said in a news release.

The body of Amanda Collette, also 15, was found on a hallway floor at Dillard High School around 11 a.m. She was shot in the torso while students were changing classes.

Wimberly left campus and walked across the street to a restaurant called Captain Crab's Take-Away where she called authorities and told them that "she had shot her friend," said Sgt. Frank Sousa, a police spokesman. Authorities took her into custody at the restaurant and recovered a gun.

"This is a situation where we are more than heartbroken."
Jim Notter, superintendent of schools for Broward County

The discovery of the body started a confusing series of events. Police said they did not believe anyone heard gunshots, and an initial examination found no major wound on the girl's body, leading to questions about whether or not she was shot.

Authorities later confirmed the shooting and Sousa said it was possible a smaller-calibre gun was used and the wound closed around the bullet.

Police said no other students were believed to have been involved and the motive was still being investigated. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bird flu claims life of Indonesian girl, 15

HEALTH Indonesian health officials say a 15-year-old girl has died of bird flu.

Agus Suryanto, who headed the team of doctors treating the patient, says the girl was from the city of Semarang, 400 kilometres east of Jakarta.

She died late last week after 10 days in hospital.

Local health agency chief Tatik Suryanti says test results from two laboratories in the capital came back positive.

Officials believe the girl, whose home was near a chicken slaughterhouse, became infected after coming into contact with sick poultry.

Indonesia has recorded 113 human bird flu deaths since 2003, nearly half of all 245 recorded fatalities. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Auction **Girl's best friend**

DOMINIC FAVRE / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Sotheby's employee displays a magnificent 10.48-carat Fancy Deep Blue diamond during a press preview in Geneva, Switzerland yesterday. The diamond is estimated to fetch $6-9 million US at the Sotheby's jewelry sales on Nov. 16, in Geneva.

Turkish ship hijacked off Yemen

PIRACY Turkish maritime officials say pirates have hijacked a Turkish chemical tanker off the coast of Yemen.

A statement from the Turkish Maritime Affairs Directorate said the Karagol was hijacked yesterday en route to India.

The ship, carrying 4,000 tonnes of unspecified chemicals, was commandeered about 25 kilometres off the coast.

Officials say 14 Turkish personnel were aboard the tanker. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shortage of sperm in U.K.

FERTILITY The British Fertility Society is warning that the country is facing a shortage of men willing to donate sperm.

Fertility clinics are struggling to recruit donors, have long waiting lists and high costs, and in some parts of the country there are no clinics at all.

The warning came in the British Medical Journal from members of the fertility society's board of directors.

They say part of the problem is that Britain banned anonymous sperm donation in 2005.

About 4,000 women a year in Britain need donor sperm to become pregnant, but in 2006, only 307 men registered to become donors. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

FINANCES The University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, a teaching hospital severely damaged by Hurricane Ike, will lay off about 3,800 workers — nearly a third of its workforce — because it is running out of money.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Comment & Views

Comment

Portrait of contempt

Conservatives mysteriously abandon gallery in Ottawa

Home&Abroad

Andrew Cohen

Canada & world insight

If we wonder why so few Canadians voted in the last federal election — a record low turnout — the reason may be how disdainfully their government treats them.

We need not agree with the government's decisions, but we are entitled to know why and how it makes them. Isn't that what democracy is about?

Consider the mysterious decision to cancel the Portrait Gallery of Canada, which was announced stealthily last week. The purpose of a national portrait gallery — which serious countries have — is to educate people, to display the past in pictures, to tell history through the images of those who create a country.

A year ago, the Conservatives announced they would invite bids from developers in nine cities to host the gallery, which was proposed for Ottawa by the Liberals in 2001. It was embarrassing, a country handing a public gallery to private developers and possibly moving it out of the national capital, but that isn't the point here. The point is the contempt it showed for Canadians.

Last Friday, the government announced it would not accept any of the bids. None met its criteria. So it cancelled the gallery entirely. It refused to reveal the bids or how they were judged, saying only that a gallery is now too expensive.

"We need not agree with the government's decisions, but we are entitled to know why and how it makes them."

But what was most telling was the process here. James Moore, the new, highly regarded minister of Canadian Heritage, did not call a news conference, which would have been honest.

Instead, Moore's office issued a three-paragraph statement after hours on Friday, when everyone had gone home. His spokeswoman, Deirdra McCracken, said it wasn't ready earlier.

Issuing late news releases is an old trick. The idea is to play down an unpopular decision, ensuring that few people see it and discuss it.

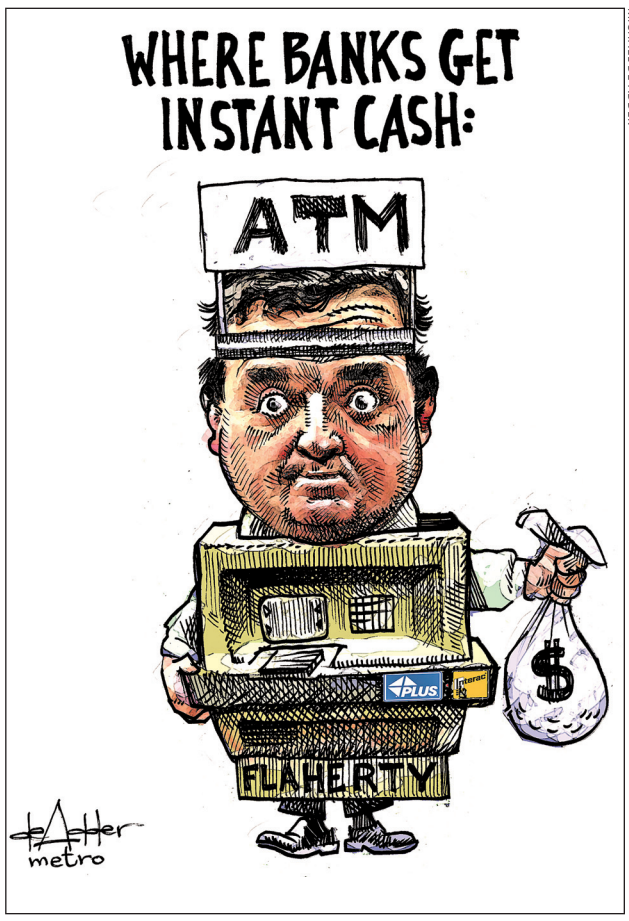
Ask McCracken about this and her stonewalling has a Bambi-like innocence. Why, she even wonders — this is true — did she receive "so few calls from reporters" to speak to Moore, who made himself available to say the gallery would now cost $100 million rather than $44 million, without providing any evidence whatsoever.

We can only guess that journalists were unaware of the opportunity to spend their Friday night chatting with McCracken, who surely could have delayed the urgent statement until Monday, and had her minister deliver it.

The reason for this little game? Limit debate. Avoid discussing a legitimate national enterprise seven years in the making. Treat voters like children.

Then wonder why so few vote.

Andrew Cohen teaches journalism at Carleton University. He is the author of Extraordinary Canadians: Lester B. Pearson.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Views

An ode to average Canadian children

By KELLY SCHWARTZ

Kelly Schwartz

As I sit and listen to my son massacre one of several timeless left-hand-then-right-hand classics on the piano, six words immediately come to mind: "Wow! A prodigy he is not!"

But he is not entirely to blame for either his lack of skill or devotion to this parent-imposed ritual of daily aural abuse. I'm really just passing down another of the several rites of passage my parents did "to" me, and thus anything less than sitting and kicking the bejeepers out of the old upright piano for 30 minutes a day is better than I did at his age.

His lack of attention to excellence is compounded by the unseasonably warm autumn weather, which means he is missing one of several street hockey games that are calling his name much louder than the sweet notes of Cantina Band in Bb screaming awkwardly from his fingers. Both of us finally give in — and give up — and out the door he goes with stick in hand.

While I sit and ponder whether or not street hockey might be an Olympic sport by the time my son is ripe of Olympian age, I find myself struck with a mix of mild disappointment and peaceful resignation that my kids are (gasp!) average. From what I can see so far, my kids are no Sidney Crosby, no Wesley Chu, no Miley Cyrus (whew!), and no Lauren Bay Regula (for women's fastball novices, she was the star pitcher on Canada's 2008 Olympic softball team). And guess what? The more I learn about kids and healthy development, the more you and I should be OK with that.

You see, our country, its families, and parents in particular need to be content with the fact that millions of our kids are simply average, normal, and just plain plain. Encouraging our kids achieve to their potential is one thing, but demanding that they be the best at everything is simply unrealistic. Our homes are not the set of a Hanna Montana episode (and thankfully sans mulleted fathers like Billy Ray Cyrus!), and real life means it's OK for our kids to just be kids.

As I put the piano books away I can hear the cheers from the street. My boy can go shelf on the shooter tutor like no other! Well, not really, but as far as average Sydneys go, he's pretty good.

Kelly Dean Schwartz (PhD social psychology) is a professor at the University of Calgary where he directs an on-campus clinic serving children and families.

Letters

Bobbi Marshall, TORONTO

It is with great irritation and disgust that I sit down to write this letter.

This is Day 5 that I have had to walk through a circle of picketers (at York University) to get into MY university that I pay fees for, which in turn keeps the university going.

Where is my voice? I see things written about the university and about CUPE 3903, but I see nothing written about the students.

Does it not matter to anyone that there are 50,000 students being punished as a result of a small group of individuals.

It takes all of my self-restraint not to scream at the picketers as I push past them to get my child to his day care.

What about all the international students who are paying an arm and a leg to be at York and have no means to make money during this strike? What happens to these people?

What about our right to education?

How is it even close to fair that our money and time is being wasted because they want to throw a tantrum? Are they going to reimburse us for our missed opportunities and lack of funds because we are unable to work because we are uninvolved and hold no control over our own education that WE are paying for?

Lyle Walter Jr., OTTAWA

Re: Addressing an elephant (Nov. 12)

Mr. Sullivan, thank you for telling it like it is re: the Bloc and Canadian political parties. It boggles the mind.

I have been saying this for more years than I care to remember. It seems that we in Canada spend more time and effort appeasing Quebec than anything else.

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*Includes all taxes and freight. Prizes may not be exactly as shown.

Loonie falls like a stone in worst day since Oct. 10
The Canadian dollar had its worst one-day fall on record yesterday, surpassing the 2.69-cent fall on Oct. 10, dropping below 81 cents US as a result of lower commodity prices, plunging stock markets and uncertainty about the economy. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

DOLLAR 2.77¢ | C$ $80.81 US | US$ $1.2374

OIL $56.16 US | $3.17

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Feds offer $50B more

Program aimed at encouraging banks to lend

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty moved yesterday to grease the wheels of Canada's financial system by announcing measures aimed at ensuring banks keep lending money.

Flaherty said the government will buy up to an additional $50 billion in insured mortgages by the end of the fiscal year. That will bring the total amount of money available under the program, announced last month, to $75 billion.

"(The program) will make consumer and mortgage loans more affordable."
Jim Flaherty

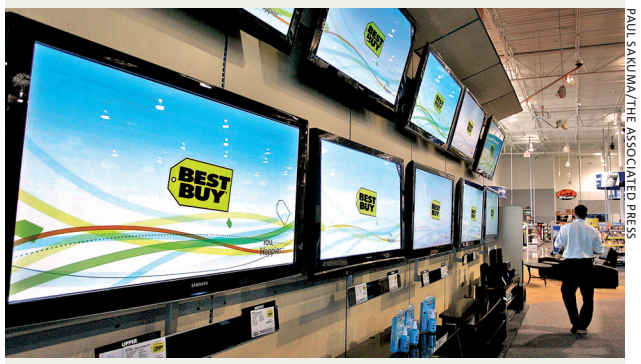
The aim of the program is to encourage lending by taking mortgages off banks' books in exchange for cash.

Flaherty said the program "will make consumer and mortgage loans more affordable and more available," and help companies invest in new technologies.

He stressed the program involves the purchase of "high-quality assets already guaranteed by the Government of Canada."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Best Buy **Tough times**



PAUL SAKUMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Best Buy Co. yesterday sharply cut its fiscal 2009 earnings outlook below analyst estimates amid what the electronics retailer called the toughest retail environment it has ever seen.

TD toughens credit card conditions

CREDIT Just as the federal government is moving to spend $50 billion more to entice Canadian banks to keep lending, many customers are getting hit with higher credit costs.

Toronto-Dominion Bank, which has skirted the worst of the credit crisis, is toughening up key conditions of its credit-card agreements that will drive up interest rates for most Visa customers who miss two consecutive minimum payments. Customers who take 30 days beyond the payment due date to make the minimum payment will pay interest at 24.75 per cent, a 5 per cent jump.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Air Canada facing cash crunch?

AIRLINES Following a brief run of profitability, Air Canada is now grappling with the prospect of declining demand for air travel and a cash crunch.

While it still has just more than $1.1 billion in cash on hand, the minimum executives say is needed to keep the airline operating comfortably, some analysts predict that could dwindle to $750 million by year's end after the airline pays debt and lease obligations, as well as money owing on fuel hedging contracts that are "out-of-the-money" due to the recent slide in oil prices. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

In brief

MELTDOWN The U.S. government has abandoned the original centrepiece of its $700-billion US rescue effort for the financial system and will not use the money to purchase troubled bank assets. Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson said yesterday the U.S. administration will continue to use $250 billion of the program to purchase stock in banks as a way to bolster their balance sheets and encourage them to resume more normal lending, but the administration is looking at a major expansion of the program into the markets that provide support for credit card debt, auto loans and student loans.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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409050111082

Furniture retailer reports $17.5 million profit

Leon's Furniture said yesterday it earned $17.5 million in its most recent quarter, boosted by a nearly 20 per cent increase in sales. However, the retailer warned it has seen signs of a slowdown in consumer spending. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business in brief

GROWTH Thomson Reuters weathered the global financial maelstrom in the third quarter, its key markets division generating solid growth in the face of "extreme conditions," the information giant's CEO Thomas Glocer said yesterday. The company, combining the former Thomson Corp. information firm and the Reuters group after their merger earlier in the year, reported an 8 per cent rise in revenue to $3.3 billion US. Net income for the quarter came in at $381 million or 46 cents per share.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Revenue from tourism rises

Domestic travellers increase

Tourism generated $19.7 billion for governments in Canada in 2007, boosted 4.3 per cent over 2006 by domestic travel.

Statistics Canada reports government revenue from domestic tourism rose 6.1 per cent to just over $14.5 billion last year, while revenue from international visitors dropped 0.6 per cent to $5.1 billion.

The agency says the share of government revenue from international visitors declined to about a quarter last year from just over a third in 2000.

Taxes on products, such as the GST and provincial sales taxes, were the single largest source of tourism revenue for the federal, provincial and territorial governments.

Taxes on employment income and business profits were the second most important source of tourism revenue for both the federal and provincial and territorial governments.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Taxes

- Income taxes directly attributable to tourism rose 9.4 per cent in 2007, reflecting gains in both personal and corporate incomes and associated taxes.

RIM puts pressure on iPhone

LAUNCH Research in Motion is hoping to give Apple's iPhone a run for its money.

The Waterloo, Ont.-based company launched its latest smart phone yesterday with the release of the BlackBerry Curve 8900.

RIM has added an enhanced multimedia player to its popular BlackBerry, making the unit capable of airing podcasts. The phone also features a built-in global positioning system and an updated camera.

RIM has had to contend with stiff competition from Apple since the U.S. software giant launched the iPhone in Canada in July.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lego loses fight over trademark

TOYS Montreal-based toy maker Mega Brands Inc. has won a trademark victory in Europe against Danish rival Lego, which had appealed a 2006 EU ruling that its bricks can't be legally protected by trademark law.

The European Court of First Instance agreed with Mega Brands that the plastic building blocks, with two rows of interlocking studs, are a functional, technical shape that cannot become the property of any one company. Mega Brands' Mega Bloks use rows of raised knobs to hold the bricks together.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Oil firms set stage for new crisis?

OIL The International Energy Agency is warning the oil companies are sowing the seeds of a new supply crisis by delaying expensive projects that would bring in needed supply, including some in Canada's oilsands. I.E.A chief economist Fatih Birol says when demand rebounds, there may be another supply crunch.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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MLB Network hires former Blue Jay, Reynolds

Former major leaguers Al Leiter and Harold Reynolds were hired yesterday as studio analysts for the MLB Network, which launches Jan. 1. Trenni Kusnierek and former Rogers Sportsnet personality Hazel Mae were hired as reporters. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

Ruutu suspended

Jarkko Ruutu is the latest NHLer to be disciplined for a dangerous hit. The Ottawa Senators forward received a two-game suspension yesterday after catching Montreal's Maxim Lapierre with an elbow early in the third period of a game on Tuesday night. METRO NEWS SERVICES

SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Let the rumours heat up

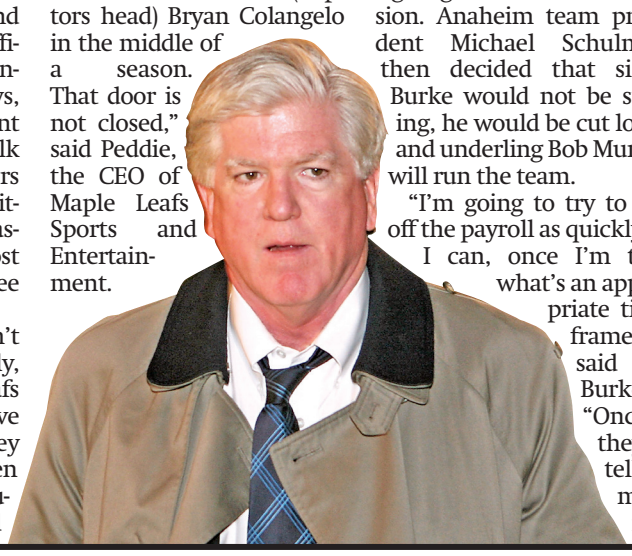
Burke resigns as Ducks GM; where t.o. next?

The race for Brian Burke is on. And the Maple Leafs, after months of inactivity in their quest for a hockey head honcho, are on the fast track.

After learning Burke and the Anaheim Ducks will officially sever their relationship in the coming days, Leafs' team president Richard Peddie will talk with team board members and take his search committee out of mothballs to assess hiring the NHL's most coveted front office free agent.

While Peddie wouldn't discuss Burke specifically, he made it clear the Leafs would be prepared to move on an opportunity they deemed advantageous, even though the team's executive search squad had been waiting for several high-end candidates to become available in the spring.

"Everything is flexible," Peddie said. "We hired (Raptors head) Bryan Colangelo in the middle of a season. That door is not closed," said Peddie, the CEO of Maple Leafs Sports and Entertainment.



The Ducks let it be known yesterday that Burke — who was in Toronto at the start of the week for a sports conference — would not be signing a contract extension. Anaheim team president Michael Schulman then decided that since Burke would not be staying, he would be cut loose and underling Bob Murray will run the team.

"I'm going to try to get off the payroll as quickly as I can, once I'm told what's an appropriate time frame," said Burke. "Once they tell me it's time to start looking, I'll start looking in earnest." At the Ducks' press conference yesterday, Burke would not address the possibility of going to Toronto.

"I don't know what's out there. I don't know what happens next," said Burke, noting he wants to to remain an NHL general manager making personnel decisions.

Burke has long let it be known he would like to move east for family reasons — he has four children from a previous marriage living in the Boston area — and speculation has been rampant that he would land in Toronto. There is also thought to be some interest in Burke from teams including the Bruins and Ottawa Senators. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The Raptors ponder their second straight loss last night.

Calderon leaves in loss

NBA RESULT

76ers 106 **Raptors** 96

THE SKINNY: In a rematch of the season opener, the Raptors trailed by as much as 17 points early, ultimately falling by 10.

THE REAL CONCERN: Jose Calderon appeared to injure his right hamstring in the first half. He came out for the second half, but quickly left the game and headed to the locker room.

BRANDED: Elton Brand led the way with 25 points for Philly, while the Sixers' backcourt duo of Andre's — Miller and Iguodala — combined for 36.

THE BRIGHT SIDE: Andrea Bargnani scored 11 points in eight minutes in the second quarter, galvanizing the Raps briefly with a big turnaround dunk. Chris Bosh added his usual double-double (30/12) as did Jermaine O'Neal (19/11).

THE NEXT GAME: Home Sunday against Miami.

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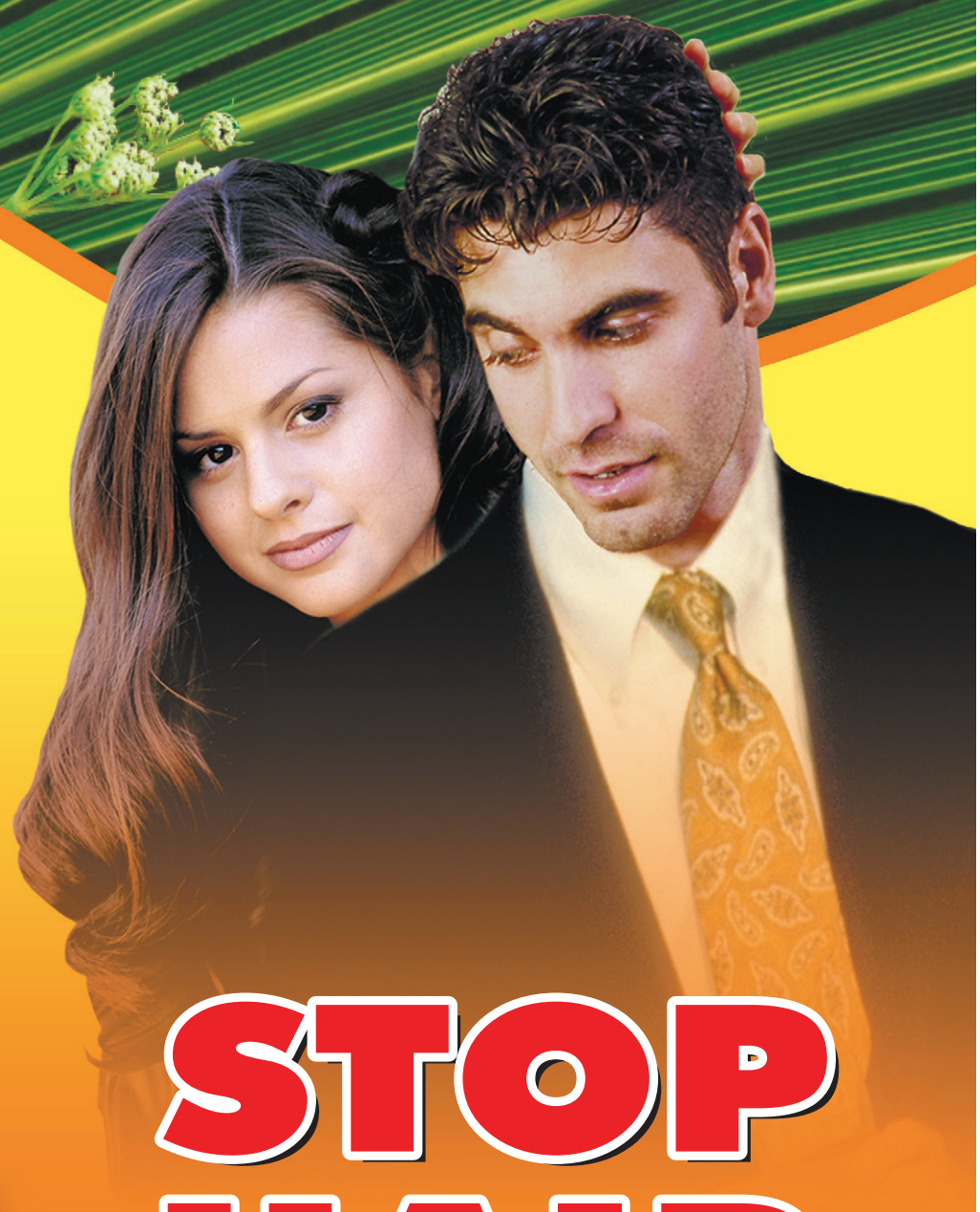

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Canadian bobsledder's suspension extended
Serge Despres had his 20-month suspension for a positive doping test extended to two years, the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport said yesterday.

Wilson's formula working

Leaf vets finding 'country club' atmosphere is gone

It goes without saying that Maple Leafs winger Jason Blake was upset about being a healthy scratch against Calgary earlier this week, but the veteran must also understand this is coach Ron Wilson's ship and only one man is steering it.

No professional hockey player wants to sit a game out, especially a veteran like Blake. But in breaking down the numbers and keeping in mind what the diminutive forward was brought in to do, it's difficult to argue with Wilson's decision.

Blake is currently on pace for 34 points this season (assuming he gets out of the doghouse soon), which would be his worst total since 2001-02, when he was with the New York Islanders.

His best season, not surprisingly, came in New York the year before he was signed to a whopping contract in Toronto. And that's the main problem here.

There's a concept in the hockey world that basically states that someone has to score on a bad team. The Islanders were, and continue to be, a bad team, though, ironically, they were better than the Leafs in 2006-07. Blake tallied an impressive 40 goals that season, before diving down to 15 in his first campaign with the Leafs.

And it's not like Blake wasn't getting chances — he threw 332 shots on net last year, 27 more than he did during the 40-goal season and good for fifth in the NHL.

Which is where the real quandary comes in. With a salary cap hit of $4 million this season, Blake is Toronto's highest-paid forward and he's a healthy scratch.

Now it's tough to blame him for taking the money former Leafs GM John Ferguson offered him, but it's also not hard to blame coach Wilson for benching Blake in favour of players who are producing or doing other things well.

What Wilson is doing in Toronto, which fans have clearly realized and relished, is changing the culture of a squad that has long been derided as a "country club" team; one where ice time was entitled, not earned. This strategy worked so well that the Buds missed the playoffs every year since the lockout ended.

Now there is accountability; Wilson has metaphorically smacked a couple players upside the head and the results have been good.

Matt Stajan suffered the indignity of being a healthy scratch early in the season and has been a house on fire ever since. His faceoff winning percentage sits at a very sturdy 54 per cent this season, up from 47 per cent the year before, and with 13 points through 15 games he is on pace to obliterate his career high in that measure, as well.

The Leafs will likely find themselves outside the playoff picture once again this season, but no one who has watched them can claim this is the same old team.

The Buds compete, they work hard and they're fun to watch.

When they fall behind this year, the games don't devolve into blowouts; comebacks are actually mounted.

There may be some bruised egos along the way, but Wilson's battle plan is based on winning as a team, no matter who that team is comprised of.

The Hockey News
thn.com

Tonight

TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS vs EDMONTON OILERS

9 p.m.
TV: Leafs TV
Radio: AM 640

Sports in brief

HOCKEY Canadian women's hockey team captain Hayley Wickenheiser will be sidelined for a minimum of six weeks with a right knee injury and doesn't know if her Swedish men's pro team Eskilstuna will want her back. Wickenheiser wouldn't reveal the nature of the injury she suffered in the Four Nations Cup final Sunday in Lake Placid, N.Y., because she felt her employer Eskilstuna should do that. She said she doesn't require surgery. Wickenheiser collided with a U.S. player and did not return to the game, which Canada lost 3-2 in a shootout.

Wickenheiser

CFL The Winnipeg Blue Bombers fired head coach Doug Berry yesterday. "This move has been made in what the club believes is in the best interest of the on-field product," Bombers president Lyle Bauer said in a statement. Winnipeg finished second in the East Division this season, but with a mediocre 8-10 record. The Blue Bombers lost 29-21 to the Edmonton Eskimos in the East semifinal last Saturday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SCOREBOARD

NHL

STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

NORTHEAST DIVISION

	W	L	OL	PTS
Buffalo	9	3	3	21
Montreal	9	2	2	20
Boston	8	3	3	19
TORONTO	6	6	4	16
Ottawa	6	7	2	14

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	OL	PTS
N.Y. Rangers	12	5	2	26
Pittsburgh	9	4	2	20
New Jersey	7	6	2	16
Philadelphia	5	6	3	13
N.Y. Islanders	4	9	2	10

SOUTHEAST DIVISION

	W	L	OL	PTS
Washington	9	4	2	20
Carolina	8	6	2	18
Tampa Bay	5	6	4	14
Atlanta	6	7	2	14
Florida	6	8	1	13

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	OL	PTS
Detroit	9	2	3	21
Chicago	7	3	3	17
Columbus	7	7	2	16
Nashville	7	7	1	15
St. Louis	5	7	1	11

NORTHWEST DIVISION

	W	L	OL	PTS
Calgary	9	7	1	19
Vancouver	9	6	0	18
Minnesota	8	4	1	17
Edmonton	8	6	1	17
Colorado	6	8	0	12

PACIFIC DIVISION

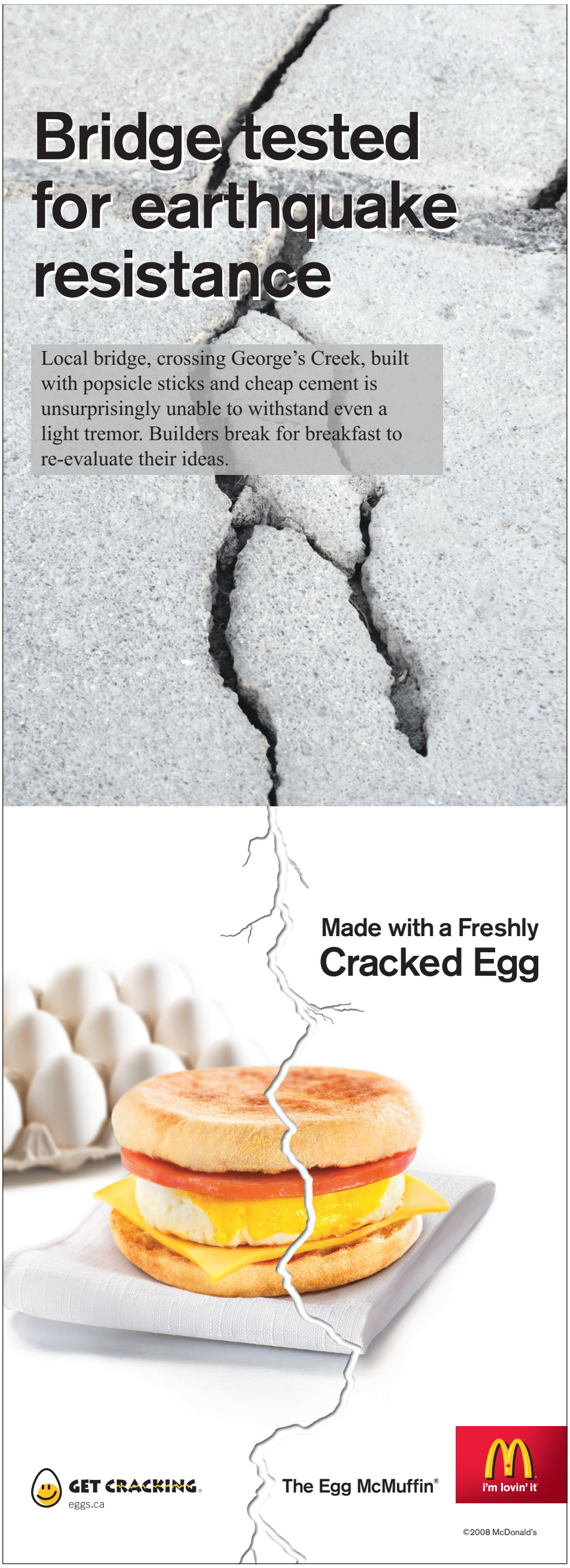
	W	L	OL	PTS
San Jose	13	3	1	27
Anaheim	9	7	1	19
Phoenix	8	6	0	16
Los Angeles	6	6	2	14
Dallas	5	7	3	13

LAST NIGHT'S RESULTS
Buffalo 4 St. Louis 3
Florida 4 Tampa Bay 0
N.Y. Rangers 5 New Jersey 2
Phoenix 5 Columbus 2
Washington 5 Carolina 1
Boston at Chicago
Colorado at Vancouver

TONIGHT'S GAMES
TORONTO at Edmonton
Montreal at Boston
N.Y. Islanders at Ottawa
Philadelphia at Pittsburgh
Detroit at Tampa Bay
Phoenix at Minnesota
Los Angeles at Dallas
Calgary at San Jose

NBA

LAST NIGHT'S RESULTS
Philadelphia 106 **TORONTO** 96
Indiana 98 New Jersey 87
Boston 103 Atlanta 102
New York 132 Memphis 103
Milwaukee 82 San Antonio 78
Washington 95 Utah 87
L.A. Lakers at New Orleans
Portland at Miami
Orlando at Oklahoma City
Houston at Phoenix
Sacramento at L.A. Clippers



NFL playoff ticket prices to drop
The average ticket price for NFL playoff games this season will decrease by approximately 10 per cent from last season. Citing economic challenges facing fans as the reason for the reduction, the NFL confirmed the lower prices yesterday. But the specific ticket price cannot be determined until the home playoff sites are decided. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blue Jays likely coming to crossroads

Current economic climate only part of the equation as free agency begins

The Toronto Blue Jays appear to be at a crossroads as the baseball off-season starts to shift into full gear, staring at a big picture that these days has a lot of moving parts.

Things have never been tougher in the American League East thanks to the emergence of the Tampa Bay Rays, and the new reality in baseball's toughest division leaves the ownership at Rogers Communications Inc., with some tough decisions to make.

A payroll just under $100 million US was only good enough for a fourth-place finish in 2008 and with nearly $70 million committed to 11 players next season and more than $82 million committed to eight players in 2010, general manager J.P. Ricciardi doesn't have an abundance of free cash to use on roster upgrades at the team's current spending levels.

Yet injuries to pitchers like Shaun Marcum and Dustin McGowan plus the looming possibility that A.J. Burnett will sign elsewhere now that he's opted out of his contract, leaves the Blue Jays with very significant holes to fill.

Combined with improvements the offence desperately needs, it would seem that Rogers is left with three approaches to take with the Blue Jays in coming years: Raise payroll to give the team a better chance at winning; keep payroll at the current level, try to sign free agents to heavily backloaded deals and hope their players overachieve while their rivals struggle; or move some payroll, go young and regroup for a run in 2010 or '11 once some of the team's top prospects have been integrated and become inexpensive contributors.

And if the Blue Jays are indeed at a crossroads now, Burnett's future is likely to play a significant role in deciding the team's path. To continue as they are without their dominating No. 2 starter or a comparable replacement for what is right now a thin rotation, the Blue Jays would be left hoping for a year in which everything went right for them and wrong for their rivals to reach the post-season.

A scenario unlikely to end well.

That's why in the coming weeks the Blue Jays may very well have to opt to either make a push in '09 by increasing payroll, or veer off in the other direction and sell off some parts to regroup.

"You're going to look at this year depending on how the cards play with someone like A.J. Burnett," interim Blue Jays CEO Paul Beeston said in a recent interview. "It would certainly give you an indicator of which direction you're going to go in.

"What do you do then? Do you say, 'Now I've got this money from A.J., do we go spend that right away?' Or do we say, 'Just a minute, I think I'm going to stay out of the market, I'm going to wait for the market to kind of stabilize and the team is better.' Are you investing in the stock market right now or are you shorting stock? It's that question."

"Are you investing in the stock market or are you shorting stock?"
Paul Beeston

A.J. Burnett's likely departure could pave the way for several scenarios.

It's a question that is not easily answered, and part of why the big picture for the team is so complicated right now. The economy's general health is uncertain and a publicly traded company like Rogers must keep that in mind.

As well, the loonie's recent fade versus the American dollar has raised the cost of simply maintaining the team's current payroll level, let alone increasing it. On top of that, there's the health of 75-year-old Ted Rogers, who was recently admitted to a Toronto hospital for treatment of an existing heart condition, and possible repercussions for the baseball team should the company's hierarchy need to be changed in the future as a result. All more factors that seemingly bring the Blue Jays to a crossroads.

"It depends on what you're going to bring in in revenue to see what direction you're going to go," said Beeston. "On the assumption you are going to play well and fill the building, you're going to have a lot more revenue and if you have a lot more money to spend on salaries.

"So it all ties together. That's the challenge."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Holliday trade to A's completed

MLB The Oakland A's completed their trade with the Colorado Rockies for outfielder Matt Holliday yesterday, securing the big bat Oakland sought for the middle of its order. Colorado received right-handed reliever Huston Street, lefty starter Greg Smith and promising outfielder Carlos Gonzalez from the A's. The clubs reached a tentative agreement Monday, but had to wait for the results of physicals and other details to be worked out.

Maddon, Piniella top managers

MLB Joe Maddon had a good reason for interrupting his honeymoon. About an hour after he landed in Italy, the newlywed Maddon won the American League Manager of the Year award yesterday for guiding Tampa Bay from baseball's basement to the World Series in one season. Lou Piniella took the NL honour for the Cubs. Maddon, who succeeded Piniella as Tampa manager in 2006, was a runaway winner in balloting. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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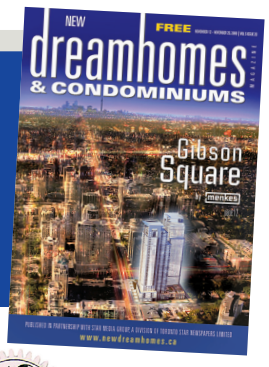
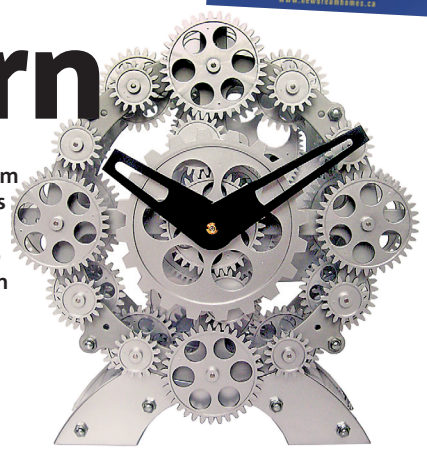


Meet machine-age modern

When high-tech entrepreneur Matthew Hill designed his condo in Lansing, Mich., he wanted decor to reflect his personality and "pretty wild lifestyle." California-based Motoart had what he was after. It buys up junked aircraft — everything from Second World War fighter planes to modern jet parts — and transforms them into furniture: Desks, tables, even sofas.



Left, this photo from Orange Skin shows the Plaza Table. Right, the Desktop Clock from Garman Designs is made from gears.

The Rivet Dining Table from Crate and Barrel.

Hill opted for a coffee table made from a section of a C-119 cargo plane. "I wanted something with a real edge that spoke to the influence of ultra-lounge atmosphere, as well as pure modernism," says Hill, who founded a company called Liquid Web.

Next, he bought a TBM Avenger engine cowling as wall art, an F22 Phantom mirror, and two other desks, made from a cannibalized B25 and 747. The former sits in Hill's Scottsdale, Ariz., home. "I'll probably have enough parts to make a complete airplane at some point," he says.

Left, this photo from The Conran Shop shows the Nine-O Swivel Armchair by Emeco. Right, a photo provided by Orange Skin shows the Chair One by Konstantin Grcic.

Call it industrial chic. Furniture and accessories this year are flaunting their rivets, welds and obvious mechanical origins.

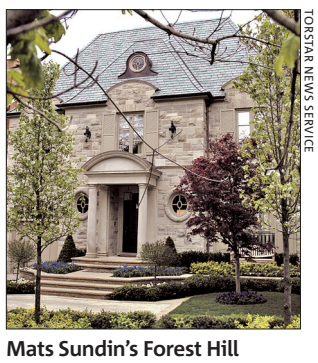
Rooms already dressed in mid-century furniture seem the most receptive to these elements, which require the balancing effect of more masculine silhouettes, heftier textures.

Interior designers are making liberal use of vintage components. A Miami penthouse by Judi Male, featured in October's Metropolitan Home, boasts several leather and steel pieces by Jacques Charpentier, Vladimir Kagan and Maria Pergay.

Cottage Living's 2008 Idea Home includes Jackie Terrell's dining table crafted from a slab of lumber mounted on antique movie camera tripods. And October's Elle Decor shows an old apothecary cabinet in the weekend home office of designers Richard Lambertson and John Truex.

While many pieces are sleek, almost aerodynamic, others emphasize the drama of scale — think gigantic kleig-like floor fixtures, factory work tables or Hill's engine cowling.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mats Sundin's Forest Hill home, shown in this file photo, sold for $5.7 million.

Sundin sells his Forest Hill home after months on the market

REAL ESTATE It was one more sign that Mats Sundin won't be back as captain of the Maple Leafs. A SOLD sign, in fact. Sundin's extravagant Forest Hill home, which had bounced in and out of the market since he originally put it up for sale in May 2006, sold late last week for $5.7 million.

The house, an eight-bathroom, four-bedroom stunner, was Sundin's main Toronto residence since he purchased it in September 2003. It's believed he still maintains a condo in the city.

The 37-year-old Sundin, a certain hall of famer and one of the Leafs' greatest captains during his 14 years in Toronto, is reportedly working out in preparation for a return to the NHL. But his final decision and final destination remain unknown.

Sundin originally purchased the home for $1.7 million, then dramatically renovated both the interior and exterior. A totally redesigned front leads into an open-concept living area that looks out on to a pool, hot tub and limestone patio. High-end finishes abound inside, including a wine room panelled in walnut, and cherrywood wine racks in a climate-controlled wine cellar that can hold up to 300 bottles.

The main bedroom takes up the entire back half of the top floor, while the basement features a spa, steam room, exercise room and access to an underground garage. The original asking price was $6.49 million, and after it failed to sell, it was brought back on the market at $5.9 million before selling last Friday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Decor

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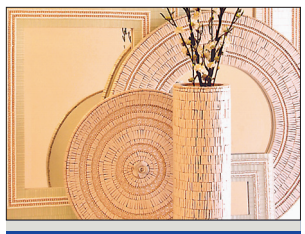

Tile style

One-of-a-kind modern mosaics

HOME & STYLE The ancient art of mosaic gets a modern update under the masterful hand of Canadian artist and designer Karen Johnston of Mosaicworks, who weaves tiles, beads and rhinestones into one-of-a-kind wonders, from $250 per 18.5-inch cylinder vase, Elliott & Ward, 416-406-0690, elliottandward.com; mosaic works.ca for more info.

— BRETT WALTHER

Out of sight

Ideas for putting clutter in its place

HOME LIBRARY Country Living Storage Style by Lesley Porcelli, $30, Hearst, hardcover, 160 pages. This book is full of ideas for open and closed storage that accent the positive and conceal the negative. Examples range from pretty necklaces displayed on an old rake to items stowed in stacked trunks (which also make handy nightstands) and a hidden office tucked into a nook underneath a staircase. — JENN HOULIHAN

Crown jewels

Designers Guild channels royal residences for a new collection

Call it a royal coup for Designers Guild. The fashion-forward fabric and wallpaper innovators, headed by the iconic Tricia Guild, were invited by Buckingham Palace to draw inspiration from royal residences as well as archived textiles and art dating back to Henry VIII.

The result? While classically inspired and undeniably luxe, the cohesive collection of sophisticated fabrics is relevant to contemporary interiors. Not only do the sumptuous silks and rich velvets bear Tricia's inimitable grasp of colour, they have the seal of approval from Her Majesty, to boot.

— BRETT WALTHER

Left, Designers Guild The Royal Collection Verity embroidery on silk satin ground in emerald (small cushion), Campanile jacquard silk damask in emerald (sofa), Chantrey silk damask in magenta (back cushions) and Oriel jacquard silk damask in emerald (bolster), from $319 per yard, through designers, Primavera, 416-921-3334; primavera.ca for more showrooms.

Shopping, etc. Decor boutique Elliott & Ward is a Leslieville design draw

Elliott & Ward, 690A Queen St. E., 416-406-0690, elliottandward.com. Store owner Adrian Elliott and her longtime friend, creative associate Sean Ward, have leveraged decades of helping each other design their respective homes into a new decor boutique in the hip Leslieville neighbourhood. The genius of Elliott & Ward is that it mixes antique and vintage furniture with a dishy, swishy array of accessories. "We're not decorators or designers," Elliott says. "We're just confident in our ability to create beautiful environments." She and Ward offer lovely consignment pieces as part of the ever-growing movement to be kinder to the environment. "Taking the previously loved and transitioning it to a new space where it will be loved again — there's nothing greener than that," Elliott says. — HELEN RACANELLI

VIRGINIA MACDONALD

Left, the interior of Elliott & Ward. Right, an array of new and vintage ornaments.

Strategic painting and accessorizing make for a budget-wise kitchen update

Q We just bought our first house and I'd like to improve my dated kitchen. We're planning to put in a new kitchen, but not for two more years. Right now, we'd like some ideas on updating it within a very limited budget. Can you paint laminate cupboards? The lighting is the old fluorescent kind inside a bulkhead with plastic covers. Any suggestions to modernize this kitchen? — Leeann McNulty, Ottawa

Before the makeover, left, and after.

A There's a quick fix that will bring your kitchen into this century — and it's cheap! It's paint. However, I wouldn't advise painting all your cabinets. Painting kitchen cabinets can be a good idea, but they have to be worth the effort. Yours aren't, mainly since you'll be ripping them out in two years. Here's what to do instead: Just paint the oak trim and the oak around the pass-through in a cream shade that matches your cabinets as closely as possible. Doing that will make those dated strip pulls disappear visually. To find the right shade, hold several different paint chips next to your cabinets. You may even want to get a couple quarts and test the match. I wouldn't bother adding hardware.

As for the lighting situation, have an electrician replace the existing plastic-covered fluorescents with modern halogen track lighting from your local home improvement store. Lighting is really important in a kitchen, so I recommend spending some money on this update now.

But you're not done yet. Add personality with a few accessories that won't cost a fortune: A small rug, fresh tea towels, an attractive dish soap and lotion set, and a pot of herbs or interesting canisters for the space behind the sink.

— Margot Austin, senior design editor, Style at Home

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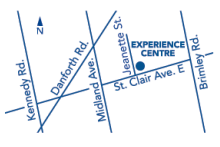

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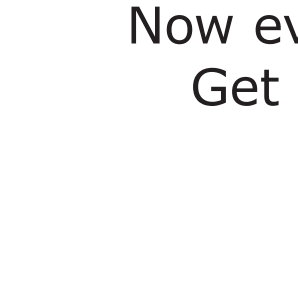

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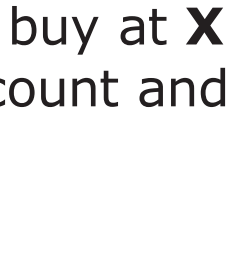

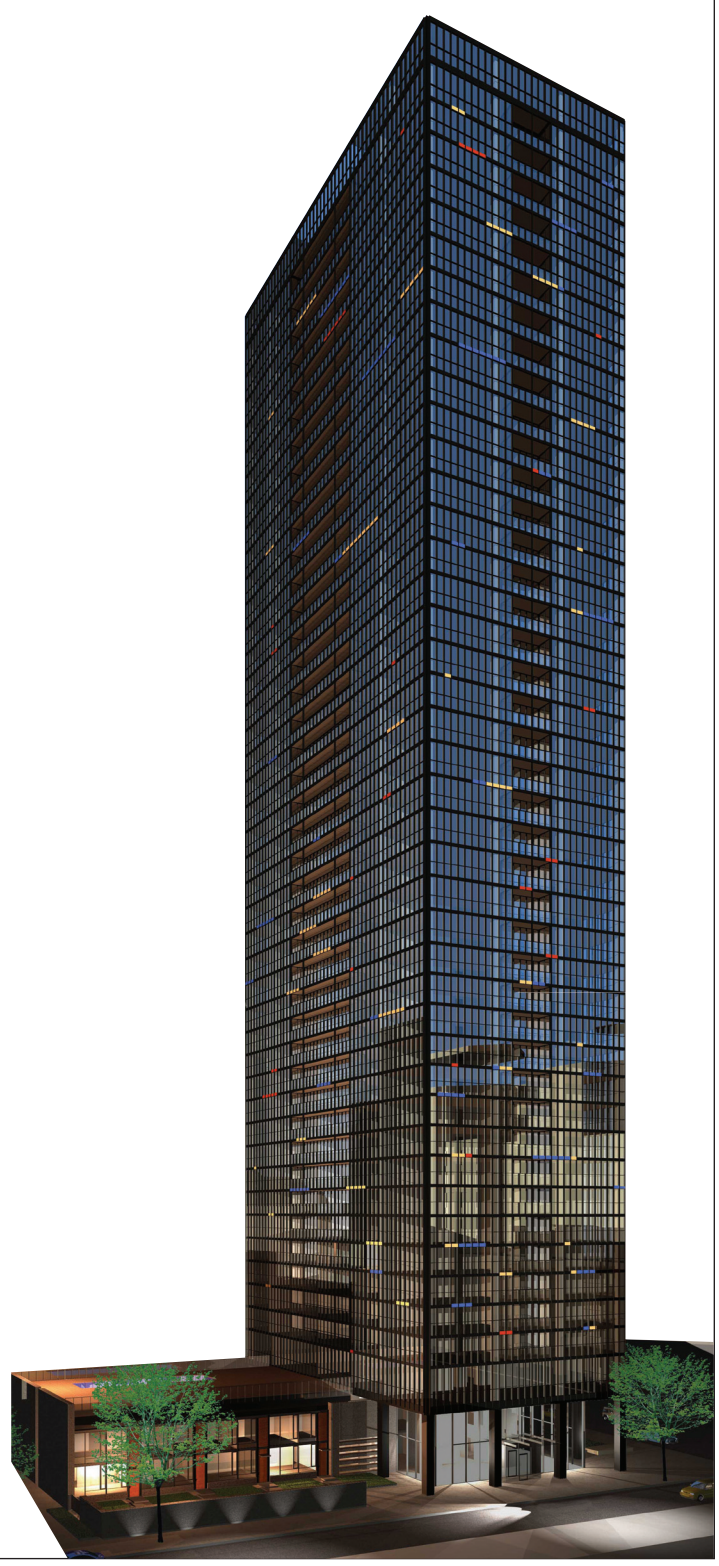

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Reviving a dream

College Park condo set to top Eaton's vision

STEPHEN WEIR
for Metro Canada

College Park is on the upswing of a roller-coaster ride of boom, bust and boom all over again.

A revitalized Eaton's College Park building, with its iconic, five-star Carlu Hall, has reignited an economic fascination for one of downtown Toronto's most prestigious and historic blocks, bounded by College, Gerrard, Bay and Yonge streets.

Big

- With close to 1,000 condo units, Aura will have the population of a town the size of Lakefield.

Canderel Stoneridge is poised to begin construction of Aura, a 75-storey condominium tower just south of College Park at the corner of Yonge and Gerrard. The residential skyscraper will cover the last street level parking lot along Yonge Street downtown. It will create a vertical community of close to 3,000 people on a block that was once supposed to be the retail epicentre of Canada.

The British Empire is now a dusty memory, but an 80-year-old architectural dream for a classier, bigger and higher College Park still lingers. Aura will be one of the tallest residential buildings in the Commonwealth of Nations and will almost fulfil a corporate dream made by the Eaton family business during the Depression.

When the sod for the limestone and granite College Park store was turned back in 1928, Eaton had grandiose plans to construct the tallest building in the Empire, says Toronto historian, author and broadcaster Mike Filey.

The lower levels would become the retail flagship of Eaton's department store chain and the upper floors would become both corporate headquarters and rental office space. Before the stately skyscraper could become a reality, the plans were drastically slashed from 36 floors to just seven. The dream of international greatness for the College Park block was put on hold.

"I believe, among other things, the designers (the same firm that designed the Royal York and Maple Leaf Gardens) ran into water problems on site. And while they dealt with that (there was) the economic downturn caused by the Depression," explained Filey.

The seven-storey limestone and granite Eaton emporium, complete with a looming street-level Roman style archway, wasn't noteworthy by British Empire standards, but was a bold retail statement for the Dominion. In 1977, the Eaton College Street store was shut down with the coming of the Toronto Eaton Centre.

Read more on page 27 ››

Artist rendition of the Aura condominium tower.

Standing tall
above them all...

- The tallest residential building in the Empire and the world is the Eureka Tower. The 12-year-old building is a 300-metre, 91-storey skyscraper located in Melbourne, Australia.
- The 78-storey Q1 Apartment Tower, also in Australia, claims that it is the tallest residential building in the world when measured to the top of its spire, which reaches a height of 322.5m.
- The Council of Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat note that there are several residential (condominium) towers being built that will eclipse the Eureka Tower when completed. They are:
- Burj Dubai, Dubai. 160-plus storeys. Office, condo and hotel building and 800m tall.
- Pentominium, Dubai. 120 storeys or 618m.
- Russia Tower Moscow 118 storeys. Office, hotel, and residential building, 612m.
- Chicago Spire, Chicago 150 storeys. Condominium building standing 609m tall.

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A final touch to College Park

Cont. from page 26

College Street was converted into a warren of street level, small high-end boutiques. Most of the upper levels were converted into apartment and courts.

Six years after the close of the College Street Eaton store, a decidedly not art deco-style building was cleaved onto the west side of the building — 777 Bay St., a 30-storey sterile glass and steel office tower best known for housing a Haida totem pole — Three Watchmen — carved by Haida artist Robert Davidson.

A row of 10 multi-storey townhouses now line the west side of the Barbara Ann Scott Park and ice rink that is right outside the back door of the old Eaton store.

Two new tall condos — The Residences of College Park — have been built on the west end of the block and are now linked by tunnel to the retail malls and subway station. The Liberties, a 20-storey L-shaped condominium complex at the southwest corner of Bay and Gerrard, completes the block.

Aura condos will offer quite the view of downtown Toronto.

In 2003 and 2004, the Carlu — named after its famed designer, French architect Jacques Carlu — was reborn. The banquet facility and auditorium now look exactly as they did in the glory years, except that they are updated with 21st-century technology.

The challenge for the Aura architects is to make sure their super-sized condo does not completely overshadow the Carlu — the very building that is attracting buyers to the block as it is in constant demand for five-star wedding receptions, private parties, fundraisers.

"The Aura will respect the lines of the Eaton building. The podium matches the height lines of the old building. It is an art deco treasure. We cannot mimic it, our design refines it," said Berardo Graziani of Graziani + Corazza Architects.

Aura will be massive. Its builders will be pouring concrete for the next few years as it goes up 75 storeys (including a four-storey podium). There will be a large retail operation in the podium, above and below the street. An underground mall will link Aura with College Park and the subway.

Eventually, all the buildings on the College Block will be linked to the city's underground "Path" network. There will be no surface level parking around the Aura. With entrances off Bay and Gerrard streets, a massive garage and loading dock will connect the condo with College Park, 777 Bay St. and the two other Canderel Stoneridge-built towers. The building plans have gone through many changes to answer the concerns of the community.

When will the big hole begin to get dug? The answer, like the multimillion-dollar suites that will populate the upper floors of the Aura, is up in the air. A construction start is dependent on the overall sales of the condo units (they range in price from $500,000 to $17.5 million).

"We are very close to that point," said Dhanji. "We have sold approximately 75 per cent. Once another 5 to 10 per cent have moved we can begin."

Memories

- Historian, author and broadcaster Mike Filey remembers the great Eaton College Park store:
- Building showed the status of the Eaton firm, to be able to build that big during the Depression.
- Building was designed by the same firm that designed Maple Leaf Gardens and the Royal York hotel.
- Building was to showcase what was then the northern end of downtown Toronto. However, expansion jumped over College Park to the Bloor-Yonge intersection.

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Realtor's group cuts forecast

Given the turmoil in the global stock markets, real estate economists have been scrambling to revise forecasts made at a time when Lehman Brothers was still in business and big North American automakers weren't on life support.

What a difference a few months makes. In August, the Canadian Real Estate Association forecast a 2.6 per cent increase in national housing prices for 2008 and another 2.1 per cent next year. Yesterday, CREA released a new forecast, calling for a 0.6 per cent slide this year and a further 2.1 per cent drop in 2009.

"This is in line with the downward revisions of the Canadian economic and job growth forecasts," CREA chief economist Gregory Klump said yesterday. A bigger-than-expected price depreciation and lower sales in British Columbia are expected to pull down the national average, Klump added.

The downgrade comes on the heels of another revision by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. last week.

The federal housing agency said Ontario housing starts were originally forecast to hit 65,000 units next year, but revised that down to 62,000. Existing home sales, forecast to be 178,000 in 2009, were downgraded to 173,000.

"With a weak domestic economy and tighter lending conditions, we expect Canadian housing activity to slow notably further in the future," said Millan Mulraine, an economics strategist with TD Securities.

Meanwhile, in a separate release yesterday, the CMHC said Canadian residential construction declined by 3.1 per cent in October compared with a month earlier. Starts came in at 211,800 annualized units, greater than the expected 200,000 units, thanks to remaining strength in the condominium sector.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Uncertain appraisals in uncertain times

LegalMatters

Jeffrey D. Cowan

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Q I had a house appraisal done for a refinancing of my home to finance planned improvements and due to various factors, I waited five months before I initiated the process after the appraisal. At that point, I signed a contract with the company that was going to do the renovations. When I went back to the financing company to firm up the money, it requested a re-appraisal and the new appraisal was substantially less than what it had initially quoted, which has left me short of my renovation funds. What can I do?

When refinancing for renovation, beware of re-appraisals.

A Generally, financing companies including chartered banks, will only adhere to an appraised amount for a certain period of time. In this case, the homeowner's financer agreed to a 120-day period so they were within their right to re-appraise the property after that time frame. This may not have been that significant in past times, however, the real estate market is quite fickle and a house that was appraised at $425,000 five months ago may now be worth only $400,000 today. This is a big difference.

One has to be aware that the appraiser will be using comparable homes in the neighbourhood that have sold recently as a barometer and basis upon which they will report to the financer. Also, the appraiser will err on the side of caution and use conservative figures because of the contraction in the credit market. Although nowhere near as dire as in the United States, Canadian financial institutions are still being more cautious with their money.

If you don't have enough money for your renovations, you are going to have to renegotiate your plans with your contractor. Perhaps just the kitchen and not the bathroom also? The important thing to remember is that financial institutions will only honour their financial commitments for a set period, which you should make yourself aware of and rely upon.

Jeffrey D. Cowan is the principal of Cowan & Taylor, Barristers & Solicitors, jeff@cowanandtaylor.com. The information contained in this article should not be relied upon as legal advice.

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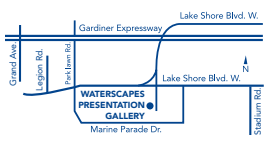

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BLOMSTER tealight holder $2.99/ea. Mouth blown glass. H5cm. **TINDRA scented tealight $3.50/36pk.** Assorted colours. Burn time approx. 3.5hrs/ea.

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Choosing décor colours that will flatter you

What works for clothing also works for décor

HomeScape

Sylvia Putz
sputz@arrestingdesign.com

When it comes to choosing colours for home décor, take a clue from your closet.

Most people understand that they look good in certain colours. For example, a dark blue sweater can beautifully emphasize blue or grey eyes.

A blouse in a rich shade of peach can give a lovely golden glow to darker skin tones. A scarf in a vibrant rose colour can put a lovely blush into cheeks and lips.

If you've got a concentration of any particular colour in your closet (and most people do), chances are that you do actually look smashing in that colour.

You have probably noticed or other people have complimented you on how that particular colour is good on you — it flatters your skin tone, hair and eye colour. Of course you'd have lots of items in your closet in that colour! Who wouldn't?

Not surprisingly, what works for clothing also works for décor.

"If you look good wearing a certain colour, the same applies to a room. If you surround yourself with that flattering colour, you'll look fabulous," says Jeffrey Fisher, designer and owner of Jeffrey Fisher Home.

If you're considering bringing a particular colour into your home, and you want to be sure it flatters your skin tone, just drape a fabric of that colour around your shoulders and consider the effect. It should make you look good, enhance your skin tone or bring out the sparkle in your eyes.

And if family members have different skin tones, drape the whole family. Luckily, certain colours are flexible and look good with several different types of skin tone.

You can paint walls in light shades of the flattering colour, or you could follow the advice of a thousand decorators — go for a neutral colour on the walls, and add pulses of flattering colour in smaller, but more intense concentrations.

Or focus on using flattering shades in rooms where skin shows, such as bathrooms and bedrooms. Think bed linens, towels, shower curtains and throw rugs, which can all help showcase what your mama gave you.

Also consider using your colours on throw pillows, throws on sofas, draperies, rugs and upholstery.

One sure bet, says Fisher, is an elegant light "blush, peachy, pinky" colour — especially in a candlelit dining room or bedroom — that makes everyone look beautiful.

SCIS

When choosing your room's dominant colour, consider tones that complement your skin tone. Purples and muted whites, in this room from Sico paint, will make just about anyone shine.

Clues to your colours

Beige or olive skin; dark hair; hazel or blue eyes:

- These folks tend to look good in cherry reds, pinks and some corals, as well as navy blue and purple tones such as mauve and eggplant.
- Avoid some shades of medium to light blue because they can make beige skin tone look pale and washed out.

Golden or dark skin; dark brown or black hair:

- Look to olive green, red clay, peach and gold to copper tones. Teal blue can look great, as can a golden chocolate brown or beige.
- Reddish rosy shades look better than warm pinks. Unadorned dark "flat" shades in navy blue, dark purple, brown or black generally do not do justice to this type of complexion.

Fair skin; blond, light brown or red hair; and blue or grey eyes:

- These people tend to look good against warm pinks with peach undertones. Any colour in warmed-up tones, such as golden apricot, bronze or certain shades of brown usually looks good.
- Colours such as blue, green or violet will bring out blue, green or grey eyes. Black is flattering, particularly with blond or red hair. Beware yellow, especially with green tones.

Sylvia Putz is a journalist with an interest in home decor and design. She has written extensively for the TV show Arresting Design.

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Investments that get ranked an 'A'

TheHunt

Amit Paul
amitp@rogers.com

"If you were considering buying ... or think you might consider buying anytime within the next year, your time is now."

Last week my column was on A-level investments and how they are abundant in today's buyers' marketplace. Due to the immense amount of response on that article I've implemented a new program for my friends and clients. By expanding on last week's article I'd like to answer some of your questions.

Without repeating too much, today's genuine buyers' marketplace reveals, on a daily basis, relatively incredible buying opportunities. This is the result of a market correction, due to today's economic uncertainty, in a city where prices were only beginning to climb. What this means is not only are those same condos and houses that attracted multiple offers and sold for tens of thousands above market value are selling for what was then fair market price but, in many cases, thousands below even that mark.

What this should mean to you, and your friends and family, is that if you were considering buying, be it for living or investment, at anytime within the past year, or think you might consider buying anytime within the next year, your time is now.

As an example, a building I've always been quite fond of in the downtown core recently sold a one-bedroom plus den for $275,000. This same unit, had it been a few months ago, would likely have sold for $285,000. Now I'm sure no one would scoff at a savings of $10,000 but when you understand that once the market comes around again you're already $10,000 ahead of the game, you'll realize why a purchase during the downtimes can make so much more sense.

For those of you that know me, you know I don't like discussing extremes because they can alter expectations unrealistically. On the same token, however, it is important to know what is happening. There was a home listed in the Queen and Dufferin area for approximately $400,000, and fairly so. It sold for $250,000.

Does this mean that you're guaranteed to steal a property for $50,000-$100,000 below market? No. But it should mean that if you are considering purchasing you'd do yourself a favour by getting to know what type of deals are available.

To that end I've gotten my very capable and valuable research and analysis team to compile a list on a weekly basis of those properties they believe to represent the greatest bargains, best deals, most lucrative investments, and so forth. I then pass along this summary of A-level investments to all my friends and clients who are interested.

Does this mean that without the ample research you're bound to make a bad decision? Certainly not. However, what it does mean is that if you're looking to make a purchase, for living or investment, without the ample research, short of luck, you're not likely to make an A-level decision. Even in today's real estate market you could stand in centre of the 416 area, spin and point to a property, purchase at fair market and likely stand to make a profit five years into the future. Having said that, why would you choose to cut yourself so short? The point is if you're looking to make arguably the most significant purchase of your life why not make the best purchase possible, rather than hope to get lucky.

If you could invest $15,000 today (down payment) and luckily make $10,000 in five years or intelligently make $100,000 in five years, isn't that the kind of homework worth doing?

If you'd like more information on these A-level opportunities, or for any questions at all, feel free to e-mail me at amitp@rogers.com.

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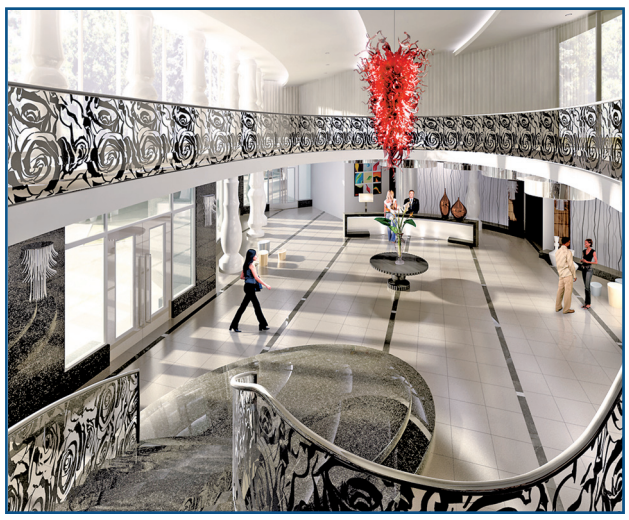
Soon, Menkes will offer a new opportunity to live in the heart of exciting North York City Centre that will embody the very best of urban living. Residents will enjoy direct underground access to the North York Centre subway station and Empress Walk Shopping Centre, and will live within strolling distance to the Toronto Centre for the Performing Arts, Mel Lastman Square, the Douglas Snow Aquatic Centre, parks and trails.

Conceived by Rafael Bigauskas Architects, Gibson Square will carve a striking silhouette on the skyline with a sleek, modern design. Two graceful glass towers will rise 42 storeys topped off with architectural white roof caps that will distinguish the buildings from miles away. The buildings will flank the existing rose garden at the northwest corner of Yonge and Park Home, and as a tribute to the neighbouring Gibson House Museum, a historical promenade will be created between the museum property and the towers, complementing the park space that extends along Park Home to Beecroft Road. Plus, the towers will rise above a preserved 100-year-old apple tree in the museum garden.

The buildings will share a five-storey podium with residential suites, amenities, retail shops and commercial offices — and convenience doesn't stop there! Gibson Square will offer direct underground access to the North York Centre subway station and Empress Walk Shopping Centre, where residents can access Loblaws, LCBO, Future Shop, Staples, Milestones restaurant, Empire Theatres and other amenities. Owners will also live within strolling distance to the Toronto Centre for the Performing Arts, Mel Lastman Square, the Douglas Snow Aquatic Centre, parks and trails.

The inside story is just as captivating, designed by award-winning Bryon Patton and Associates. In the two-storey lobby, residents and guests will enjoy attentive 24-hour concierge service. Patton used a "Modern Classic" approach in this space with a colour palette of warm grey tones punctuated by black and white accents. A dramatic black curving granite spiral staircase topped by a stunning hand-blown glass chandelier will lead to the 20,000 square feet of amenities in the second-level Gibson Club.



Seen here is the front entrance to Gibson Square.

The indoor spa-inspired swimming pool has a high sculptural ceiling and access to the outdoor terrace. Overlooking Yonge Street, the state-of-the-art fitness centre will accommodate strength-training and cardio workouts, and offers a separate room for aerobics classes and yoga/meditation. Rounding out the fitness facilities are men's and ladies' change rooms, showers and saunas.

For hosting large gatherings, two party rooms provide different atmospheres — one with a formal dining room and the other with a more casual club-type ambience. Each will have a catering kitchen, wet bar, and walk out to the garden. The Theatre Room and Games Room are sure to be a hit with those who enjoy socializing, and the furnished board room will be perfect for those who wish to hold private meetings. For overnight visitors, four guest suites will be available.

Choices include well-appointed one-bedroom, one-bedroom-plus-den, two-bedroom and two- bedroom-plus-den designs, all with luxurious appointments. Menkes has also incorporated green features such as individually controlled heating and cooling system, individual hydro meters for separate billing, an energy-saving "all off" switch at the front entry, ENERGY STAR® appliances including front-loading washing machines designed to conserve water and detergent, double-glazed windows, energy-saving lighting, and more. The community itself is "green" by virtue of its prime, transit-friendly location and inclusion of bicycle parking areas.

With a 50-year history of creating quality living spaces through innovative design and meticulous craftsmanship, Menkes is a leading home builder in the GTA. Gibson Square will continue Menkes' 30-year tradition of landmark buildings in North York City Centre.

To secure an exclusive preview invitation for Gibson Square, register now by calling 416-730-9722, or visit menkes.com.

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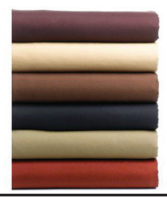

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The original

Try this James Bond martini recipe from Ian Fleming's first James Bond novel, Casino Royale: 3 oz gin; 1 oz vodka; 1/2 oz Lillet® Blanc wine. Pour gin, vodka and Lillet blanc into a cocktail shaker half-filled with cracked ice. Shake well and strain into a chilled glass. Garnish with a twist of lemon. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Food

Pick up some great cocktail recipes such as Chocolate Martini, Hot Chocolate for Consenting Adults and Limoncello at Foodtv.ca.

Metro News Services

EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

On the tip of James Bond's tongue

À la carte

Barb Holland

Metro Food Writer

In the spirit of Bond mania leading up to the release of Quantum of Solace, let's look at an arena in which this sophisticated and suave agent would feel right at home — the cocktail party. Beautiful and bejewelled women, men in tuxedos and the mysterious allure of strangers.

"Every once in awhile you take a little bite of this and a little sip of that, and it hits just the right note," says Canadian wine educator Shari Darling, who calls this the "moan factor."

Darling is the author of a new cookbook, Orgasmic Appetizers and Matching Wines (Whitecap Books), a book that would certainly appeal to James Bond, who has made many a woman moan. These treats would also be a killer for a pre-movie, entertaining night for guests.

Virgin Cherries Stuffed with Goat Cheese

Darling recommends a brut sparkling wine with some lemon flavour for this recipe from her book. If you can find a small bottle of extra virgin olive oil infused with white truffles, it makes for a lovely drizzling oil for this easy and classy hors d'oeuvre. Makes 24.

INGREDIENTS:

- 24 large cherry tomatoes
- 4 oz (125 g) fresh goat cheese (chevre)
- Salt and pepper
- 24 tiny fresh basil or oregano leaves
- White truffle oil or extra virgin olive oil

METHOD:

Wash and dry tomatoes, cut a small slice off bottom of each tomato to sit flat (be careful not to break through tomato). Slice a thin portion from top of each tomato. Using a melon baller, scoop out the flesh, being careful not to break the skin.

To make the filling, combine goat cheese, salt and pepper to taste until smooth. Fill each tomato with 1 tsp (5 mL) mixture. Garnish each with basil or oregano leaves. Drizzle each with a little olive oil. Cover and chill.

Canadian wine educator Shari Darling recommends a brut sparkling wine with some lemon flavour for these Virgin Cherries Stuffed with Goat Cheese.

Chicken and Mango in Crisp Wonton Cups

Both the cups and the filling can be made ahead. Assemble this Asian flavoured appetizer just before serving. Makes 32.

INGREDIENTS:

- 32 wonton wrappers (1-400 g package)
- 1 lb (500 g) boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 1 ripe mango, finely diced
- 1/2 red pepper, finely diced
- 2 green onions, finely diced
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) minced fresh ginger
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) each hoisin sauce and chili garlic sauce
- 1 tsp (5 mL) soy sauce
- Salt and pepper
- Cilantro leaves

METHOD:

Preheat oven to 350 F (180 C). Push a wonton wrapper into each cup of a muffin pan and bake 5 to 7 minutes or until golden and crisp. Remove cups to a wire rack to cool.

Continue with remaining wrappers, cool then store in an airtight container for up to two days.

Grill, bake or broil chicken breasts until cooked. Cool then dice into small cubes.

Combine chicken, mango, red pepper, green onion, ginger and garlic. Stir in hoisin, chili garlic and soy sauces.

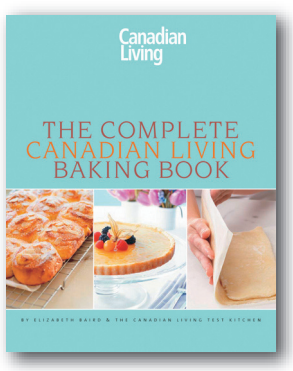
Season to taste with salt and pepper. Filling can be made up to one day ahead, covered and refrigerated.

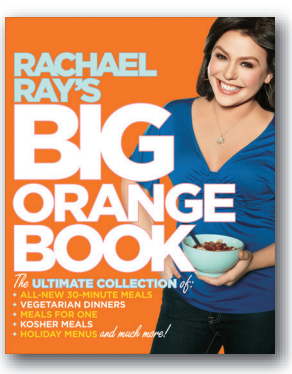
To serve, warm filling in microwave briefly to room temperature and spoon into cups just before serving. Garnish with cilantro leaves.

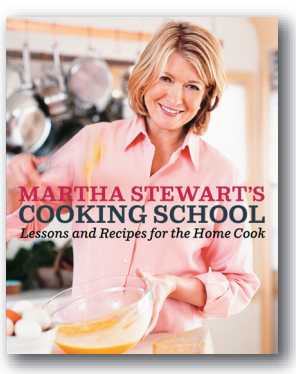
Barb Holland is a professional home economist and food writer who believes in shopping locally and in season.

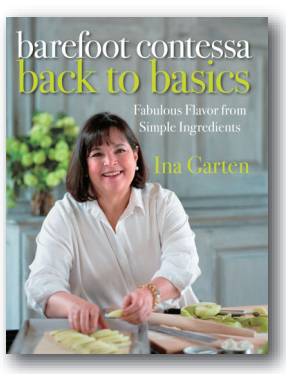
Invite the best celebrity chefs into your kitchen

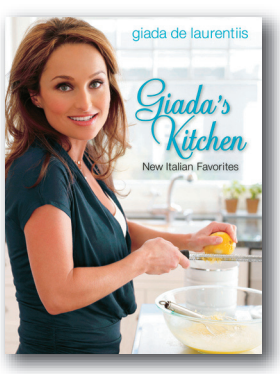
Make sure your pantry is filled with this season's hottest cookbooks.

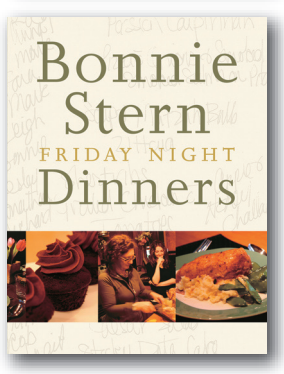












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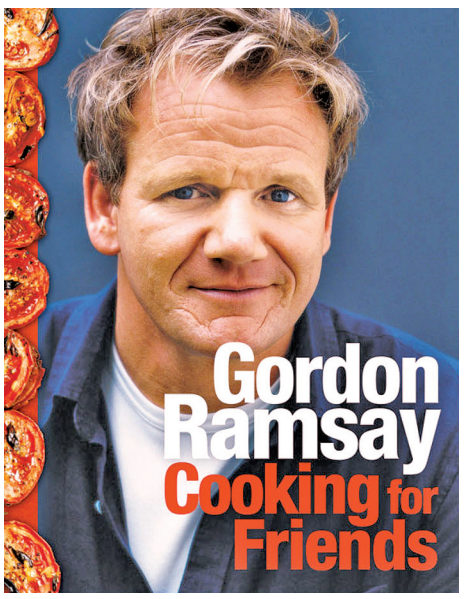
Art meets food
New restaurant FRANK opens to the public on Friday at the Art Gallery of Ontario, where AGO visitors can expect a culinary experience that will transcend their expectations of gallery dining. The restaurant can be accessed directly from Dundas Street. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Friend in need, friend to feed

Celebrity chef Ramsay offers these dishes for your loved ones

Gordon Ramsay — a man that needs no introduction — lives life in the fast lane, travelling the world to foster his many hugely successful business enterprises and to film his highly acclaimed TV series.

But despite the commitments of a busy work life, he has always believed that families should sit around their tables to eat together as much as possible. In Cooking for Friends, Ramsay shares more than 100 inspiring and well-constructed recipes that he loves to cook (and eat) when he's off duty. Harper Collins Canada gave Metro this recipe:



DITTE ISAGER PHOTOGRAPH

Gordon Ramsay's Coffee and Almond Crunch Cake is all-at-once tender, moist and crunchy. His book Cooking For Friends is available online at Amazon.ca for $22.02 or in stores for $34.95.

Coffee and Almond Crunch Cake

For me, this is the definitive cake to have with coffee or tea. It is all-at-once tender, moist and crunchy. It keeps well for several days in a cool part of the kitchen. Some people like a dollop of lightly sweetened mascarpone on the side, though, for me, it's perfect on its own.

INGREDIENTS:

Cake:
- 170g unsalted butter
- 170g caster sugar
- 3 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 1/2 tsp almond essence
- 100g ground almonds
- 4 tbsp cooled espresso or strong coffee
- 100g self-raising flour
- 1/2 tsp baking powder

Crunch topping:
- 60g plain flour
- 40g light brown or demerara sugar
- 40g cold unsalted butter, diced

METHOD:

Preheat the oven to 150C/Gas 2. Butter and line the sides and base of a tall-sided 20cm cake tin with a removable base. For the crunch topping, mix the flour and sugar in a bowl and rub in the butter until it resembles coarse bread crumbs. Set aside.

Cream the butter and sugar in a large mixing bowl using a hand-held electric beater until light and fluffy. Beat in the eggs, a little at a time, until fully incorporated. Add the almond essence and mix well. Fold in the ground almonds, followed by half the espresso. Sift in the flour and baking powder together and fold this through the wet mixture. Finally, fold in the remaining espresso.

Spread the mixture into the cake tin and level with a spatula. Sprinkle the crunch topping evenly over the top. Bake for 50 to 60 minutes until the top is golden brown and a skewer inserted into the cake comes out clean. Remove from the oven and leave to cool slightly before unmoulding on to a wire rack, peeling away the baking parchment.

When completely cooled, dust with icing sugar, then cut into slices to serve.

Canadian calendar still thriving

RECIPES When it comes to culinary traditions, Americans may have apple pie. But Canadians have the milk calendar.

Every November for 32 years, the country's dairy farmers have published their free calendar, which features a milk-inspired recipe for each month.

It's an amazingly popular item and its fame has even spread to the U.S. — the state of New York snaps up about 70,000.

Why, in this world of 24-hour cooking channels, epicurean websites and everyone from celebrity chef Jamie Oliver to grocery chains publishing cookbooks, is the humble milk calendar still hanging in hundreds of thousands of kitchens?

"It's made by Canadians for Canadians," says Solange Heiss of Dairy Farmers of Canada. "I think that is why it is so popular." THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the web

Billy's Best Bottles:
- "For many, Argentina has a sexy aura so it was a natural for our next wine affair. Being a cheap date helps too." To read this week's column, visit metronews.ca

Do you have cat allergies?

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Andy Thê-Anh boutique opens in Toronto

Andy Thê-Anh, one of Canada's most prominent design companies, opened their first Toronto store, located at 83 Yorkville Ave., this week. Andy Thê-Anh collections are sold across Canada, United States and Europe. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Style

A convenient touch of Happy

Rushing from the office to a party and in need of a quick touch up scent? Try Clinique's Happy-To-Go set, which includes three portable fragranced pencils (4.8 g) that can be used to glide onto the wrist or neck. Encompassing two main notes, citrus and floral, the pencils come in three scents: Wealth of Flowers, Hint of Citrus and Clinique Happy. The set retails for $37 and comes with a convenient pencil sharpener. Available in limited edition at Clinique counters across Canada. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: STEPHANIE BOMBA, STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Holiday hot: 7 pro make-up tips

JANINE FALCON
for Metro Canada

In the upcoming whirlwind of festive engagements, you need a variety of beauty options. Paul Venoit, celebrity makeup artist and CoverGirl makeup pro, and Joli Baker, president of Pür Minerals, share their party-pretty advice to take you through the season:

1) Great-looking skin is where everything starts. "Don't overdo it, though," says Venoit, who recently appeared on the Rachael Ray show to help transform a viewer from everyday blah to Nicole Richie hot. "Let your skin show through. Apply a little concealer and foundation and, for extra holiday glam, use a large natural bristle powder brush to set with light mineral powder."

2) "My favourite holiday party looks always involve a bit of glimmer," says Baker. "Gold or silver on the eyes, a beautiful shimmer on the lips — and don't forget the body." Baker likes a dusting of glow powder on arms, back, legs and décolleté. "It's absolutely sexy."

3) "Highlight the tops of the cheekbones, the brow bones, the inner corners of the eyes and the bow of your lips," says Venoit. "Reflect that evening light!"

4) Baker's smoky eye tip is ultra-quick; keep it in mind when you have to zoom from work to drinks, dinner or the office party. "Use an eyeliner brush to smudge black or navy shadow over your existing liner," she advises.

5) Give dark smokey eye makeup a twist with an unexpected colour hit. "Line inner rims with an eyeliner shade that pops — turquoise, teal, violet or green," suggests Venoit. Or go for coloured shadow and line rims with black.

6) Winged liner is another hot look. Venoit recommends using black liquid liner pen, then adding intensity with a wet angle brush and black eye shadow. "Use short strokes to line across the base of the upper lashes, and exaggerate a bit at the end with a little flick up at the outer corner of your eyes," he says.

7) Support bold eyes with rosy nude or gold gloss for subtle sexiness on your lips. If you're rocking gold or silver eye makeup, ramp up the focus on your lips with rich, red gloss or a sophisticated deep red or berry lipstick.

Last, "Don't be afraid to add more drama than you would use during the day," says Baker. Venoit is of the same mind. "This is the time to play," he says. "Bring out your inner diva, dahling!"

LEFT: CoverGirl LineExact Liquid Liner Pen, $6.99.

ABOVE: Pür Minerals Holiday Eye Palette, $25

LEFT: Estée Lauder Limited Edition Shimmering Jewel Powder, $37.

LEFT: YSL Rouge Volupté lipstick in Red Taboo, $38.

RIGHT: Pür Minerals Holiday Specialty Powder Palette, $39.50.

BELOW: CoverGirl TRUblend Naturally Luminous Loose Powder, $13.99.

Go for Nicole Richie glam with bold eyes and a gold gloss.

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Glam it up — vintage style

Experts weigh in on looks for every setting

EVA LAM
for Metro Canada

Glitter and shimmer are still hot for the holidays, but vintage glam is the trend to look out for this winter.

We asked four experts — Karen Richter, showroom manager for H&M Canada; Gemma Capone, fashion stylist for Judy, Inc.; Dylan Sit, creative director for Civello Salons; and Caitlin Callahan, senior artist for MAC Cosmetics — for tips on looking stylishly festive in every setting.

Office party

An easy way to dress for a workplace party is to wear a fun, dressy blouse under your typical suit. "This way," says Richter, "you will look appropriate at work, then in the evening simply remove the blazer, add some fun accessories and you're set." Also, swap your workaday bag for a dressy clutch.

For hair, keep it polished and professional with a sleek and chic look. Then, bump up your makeup with a few quick fixes. "You don't have to completely change up your whole face," says Callahan. "A real punchy lip gloss and a false eyelash on top can do incredible things."

House party

"House parties are usually a little more casual, so you never want to appear to be overdressed," says Richter. Woman can go for a simple dress, while a dress shirt, cardigan and jeans would be appropriate for men. For Capone, it's all about the ruffles. She suggests a cream- or jewel-toned ruffled blouse with a skinny pant and a sexy boot or shoe.

For hair, Sit suggests a soft loose look, achieved with finger waves, finished with lightweight hairspray for flexible, lasting hold. "This modern version of the iconic '40s style is very stylish this year," she says. Keep makeup casual with a frosty eye shadow. Mineral foundation adds a subtle shimmer.

Club

This is the opportunity to jazz it up. "Try pairing a party or cocktail dress with a cropped — and I stress, cropped — leather jacket," says Capone. For Richter, high heels and dramatic accessories complete the look.

Tousled, textured hair brings edge to your style. Add dimension by using a face brush to dust shimmering eye shadow or loose powder over the ends of the hair. Go dramatic with makeup, says Callahan, who cites Dita Von Teese as a perfect example of the trendy "pinup Hollywood glamour girl" look. Try a strong arched brow, dark liquid black liner and deep red for the mouth.

Men's beige dress shirt, $39.90, left, and men's embroidered stripe shirt, $69.90. Both available at H&M as part of their new Comme des Garçon collection.

LEFT: Ruffle trim blouse, H&M, $69.90.

LEFT: Satin one shoulder dress with beading, $169.95 and beaded fringe clutch, $49.95. Both available at Le Chateau.

LEFT: Try a punchy lipgloss this holiday season like MAC's Dazzleglass in Love Alert, $21.

ABOVE: Add interest and glamour to any holiday outfit with big accessories like this oversized flower pin from Le Chateau, right, $29.95, or a classic patent clutch like the purple Aldo one above, $30.

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Sparkle, shimmer and shine
Boogie Nights, a collection of mini glitter eyeliners, are designed to be jewelry for your eyes. The kit includes five pencils in the following shades: blue, aqua, purple, silver and black. Available at Sephora for $28. METRO NEWS SERVICES

The black dress as a blank canvas

Turn minimal pieces into a 'wow' outfit

How to do more with less? When it comes to fashion, the answer usually lies with mixing and matching.

A little black dress — it could be new or several seasons old — can look modern and fresh with the right snakeskin heels, a cosy long-sleeve tee, a leather jacket or a bunch of bangles.

Choosing the perfect pieces doesn't always seem easy, but it can be, say stylists Kate Young and Anda Gentile.

Young and Gentile are among the fashion insiders responsible for striking the balance between fashion-forward and wearable in the styles we see on runways and red carpets as well as in advertisements and magazine spreads.

They both say a classic black dress is one of their favourite canvases. In fact, for a new video series on Style.com called "The Stylist," Young picked a pretty, plain black sheath to work her magic.

"I love layering ... It's much easier to have a defined style when you have layers to work with."
Stylist Kate Young

The idea, she says, is to show viewers how a dress with minimal hanger appeal can turn into a "Wow!" outfit. Other pieces to get this treatment in other segments include a ruffled shirt and high-waisted pants.

"If you're thinking about work, (try) a simple black dress ... you could wear it with a tweed jacket and then take that jacket off and put fishnets on and wear it to dinner," Young says.

Each layer you add to the outfit adds a bit more personality to your look. "I love layering. It's why I prefer fall as a fashion season. It's much easier to have a defined style when you have layers to work with."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEFT: black dress with satin belt, $46, and silver clutch bag, $19. Both available at Reitmans.

ABOVE: Beaded and sequined cardigan, $45, Smart Set.

Accessories: Reptile print stiletto, $80, gold triple square bangle, $12 and black jewelled bangle, $40. Available at Aldo and Aldo Accessories.

LEFT: Sequined tunic dress, $159.95, metallic pleated clutch, $35, long gem earrings, $22, stretch gem bracelet, $39.95, thin rhinestone bangle set, $19.95 and gem-encrusted bangle set, $35. All available at Le Chateau.

GlobalStyle

Kenya Hunt
Exclusively at *metronews.ca/style*

HIGHLIGHTS

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ARI is a contract research organization dedicated to the advancement of clinical research. We conduct research for both healthy volunteers and those with medical conditions in a safe and friendly environment.

Designer Trunk Show
Visit the Designer Trunk Show hosted by Cool East Market Nov. 22 from 1 to 9 p.m. at 1390 Danforth Ave. The event will feature men's and women's clothing and accessories as well as gift ideas. Designers include House of Hsueh, Kitsch Klothing and more. METRO NEWS SERVICE

It's tier time for garments

Style File

Kim Elbo
kim.elbo@metronews.ca

ask kim

My go-to mascara is always Great Lash by Maybelline but now I'm looking for something new. Have any suggestions?

This December Lancôme will be coming out with a new oscillating brush that will help with fully coating your lashes ($29). If you're looking for less expensive, try the Double Extension beauty tubes by L'Oreal for $15. Or try it all with the Lash Stash by Sephora, a 10-piece mascara kit that includes my favourite: Kiss Me mascara.

E-mail your style questions to *kim.elbo@metronews. ca.*

Vancouver's Kim Elbo has a passion for fashion. Here she shares the latest style tips.

Aviator-esque
Designer: Bedo
Shop: Bedo
Address: Various Locations
bedo.ca

Hoody
Designer: Soïa & Kyo
Shop: Plenty
Address: Various Locations
getplenty.com

Ruffles
Designer: Madison Marcus
Shop: Hills
hillsofkerrisdale.com

Staggered Tiers
Designer: wilfred
Shop: Aritzia
Address: Various Locations
aritzia.com

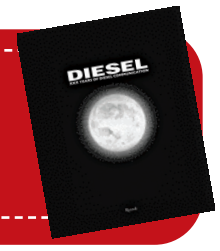
Petal Tiers
Designer: Club Monaco
Shop: Club Monaco
Address: Various locations
clubmonaco.com

Drop Waist Tiers
Designer: Grace Sun
Shop: Violet
violetboutique.ca

leather jackets

It's the perfect time of year to wear and buy leather, as it is likely on sale and stocked up in stores right now. Dress up an outfit with the Madison Marcus crop jacket, or dress down an outfit with the Soïa & Kyo motorcycle jacket, which also has a detachable hood. If you are going to indulge on something for yourself this holiday season, buy a leather jacket — it will last you years and only gets better with age. And remember, if you hit the sales section you won't feel as guilty.

accessory
Celebrate 30 years of Diesel fashion with the xXx Diesel book, $172. Available online at *amazon.com*



tiered skirts

The look this holiday season is all about the tiered skirt — a series of uniform or staggered layered fabric resembling petals on a flower. What's more, tiered skirts are going mini and they look as flattering as ever. Short skirts give you longer legs, and when paired with the right stockings look chic and stylish. So keep an eye out on tiered dresses and tanks, as the trend is here to stay.

tip: Do not wrap leather in plastic or other non-porous materials because leather needs to breathe. If you must store a leather jacket in a plastic garment bag, leave it slightly open for proper ventilation. (*wisegeek.com*)

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Crowe may replace Ledger in Dirt Music
Actor Russell Crowe is in talks to replace late actor Heath Ledger in director Phillip Noyce's Dirt Music. Noyce's film is an adaptation of the Tim Winton novel about a couple in a loveless relationship. **IMDB.COM**

Entertainment

Rock respect

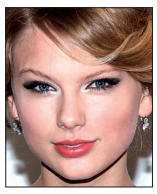
Soul diva Aretha Franklin has been named the greatest singer of the rock era in a Rolling Stone magazine poll.

BBC NEWS ONLINE

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Swift, Williams Jr. nab BMI awards



Swift

MUSIC Taylor Swift's Teardrops On My Guitar won country song of the year, and Hank Williams Jr. was honoured as a music icon during the 56th annual BMI Country Awards.

The awards were presented in Nashville. Casey Beathard won songwriter of the year for the second time. Beathard co-wrote several recent hits including Kenny Chesney's Don't Blink. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Get Smart tops DVD rental list

MOVIES The most popular DVD rentals according to Rogers Video for the period ending Nov. 9:

1. Get Smart
2. Journey to the Center of the Earth
3. Transsiberian
4. Kung Fu Panda
5. The Incredible Hulk
6. The Strangers
7. Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull
8. The Happening
9. Hell Ride
10. You Don't Mess With the Zohan

THE CANADIAN PRESS

In brief

VIDEO GAME RENTALS The most popular game rentals according to Blockbuster Video Canada for the period ending Nov. 9:

Playstation 3: Resistance 2
Playstation 2: NHL 09
Xbox 360: Gears of War 2
Wii: James Bond 007: Quantum of Solace

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ryder skips a generation

Serena Ryder

Album: Is It OK
Label: EMI
Rating: ●●●●

ON HER LAST CD, If Your Memory Serves You Well, this 24-year-old Peterborough native proved her three-octave voice can blow the socks off just about every other young singer in the country. She took some undeserved flack, though, for recording an album of Canadian covers. On her third album, Is It OK, Ryder shows she can write with the same kind of muscle that drives her voice, moving easily from bluesy folk to passionate power rock. Unfortunately, Ryder's rootsy vocal stylings will likely appeal more to her parents' generation than her own.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

EMI MUSIC

On her third album, Is It OK, Serena Ryder shows she can write with the same kind of muscle that drives her three-octave voice.

Quantum of Solace

Album: Film Score
Label: J/Sony BMG
Rating: ●●●●

I HAVEN'T SEEN the new James Bond film, but after listening to David Arnold's score, I don't have to. Intense blasts of violins and bass on The Palio signal a hurried chase, while slow, sweeping builds on Greene & Camille means a cautious Bond is peering around a corner. While the music is predictable, it still sounds fresh, even though it's rooted in '60s spy music. It's not all swelling sounds though. The disc also includes Alicia Keys and Jack White's inventive fuzzy R&B-meets-classic 007 collaboration. And, although this is probably better with the movie scenes in mind, don't be surprised if you start visualizing your own Bond film when this disc is on.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

T-Pain

Album: Thr33 Ringz
Label: Jive/Sony BMG
Rating: ●●●

IT TOOK A while for T-Pain to be taken seriously in the urban circles, but now, three years after his debut, he's one of the most sought after rap/R&B practitioners around. On his latest, the dreadlocked Floridian does something many rappers avoid — singing about heartbreak and love. He also discusses lap dances, and refers to Jesse Jackson's remark about castrating Barack Obama, but this is definitely one lovesick dude. Musically, he tones things down a bit here, but his famous auto-tune is in full force on nearly every song.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

MusicReviews

music@metronews.ca

Seal

Album: Soul
Label: Warner
Rating: ●●●½

LAST NIGHT MY 10-year-old son asked me to explain the meaning of R&B. A debate apparently had been raging in the school yard. It's understandable, considering all the junk that's sold as R&B these days. Luckily, Seal's superb new CD of old school covers had arrived. "This is R&B," I said. The kid liked the James Brown and Curtis Mayfield tracks. He danced to Knock On Wood and sensed deeper meaning in the Sam Cooke classic, A Change Is Gonna Come. The Al Green songs were slightly icky, but by the end he was almost convinced that Seal has a better voice than Kanye West. There is hope for the future.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Tracy Chapman

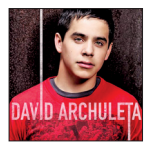
Album: Our Bright Future
Label: Atlantic/Warner
Rating: ●●●½

OUR BRIGHT FUTURE goes down easy, real easy. Folkie Chapman has never sounded more relaxed, or in better form. She's written concise, accessible songs that are both personal and topical. She filled the studio with first-call musicians to help deliver her message, which is sometimes sunny, sometimes sombre, not too earnest, and always heartfelt. This disc is Sunday-morning warm and a pleasant, if sometimes redundant, listen.

Jim Reyno/Metro Canada

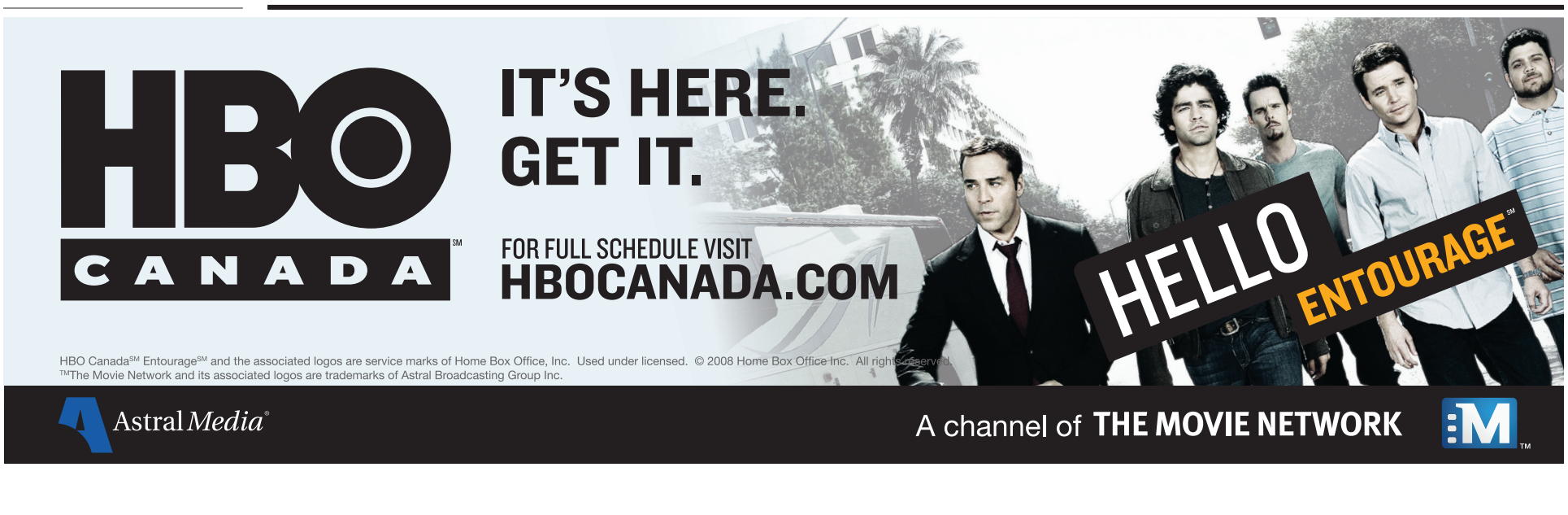
David Archuleta

Album: David Archuleta
Label: Sony BMG
Rating: ●●



AMERICAN IDOL JUDGE Simon Cowell always had a twinkle in his eye for David Archuleta. It was inspired by dreams of the multi-platinum sales a fresh-faced boy with a big voice could generate. Archuleta didn't win Idol, but he's getting the star treatment, nonetheless. A small army of corporate writers and producers was assigned to carefully polish the life out of his debut. The moms will love it. Not sure about the kids, though.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada



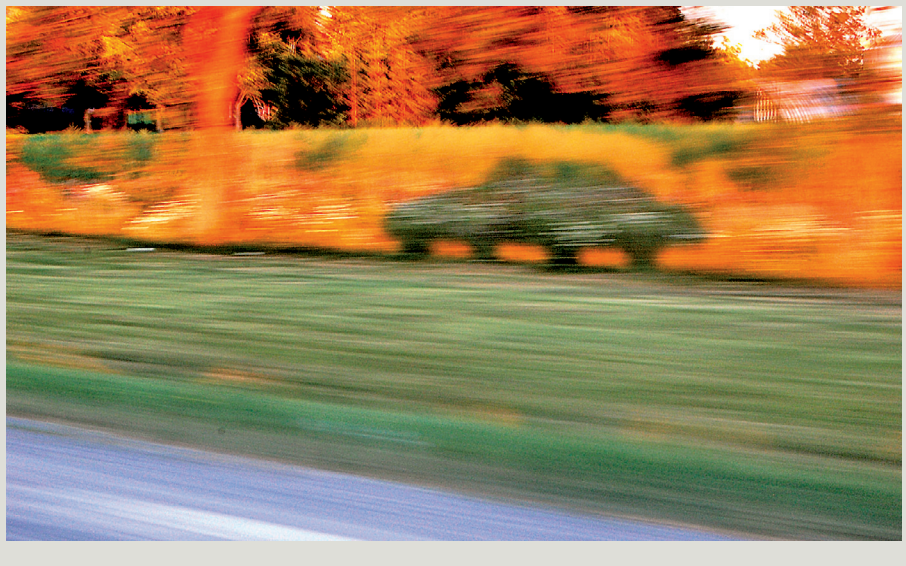
Obama children not asked to appear on Hannah Montana
U.S. president-elect Barack Obama's two young daughters haven't been asked to appear on Disney's Hannah Montana, a source within the Obama camp said. **USMAGAZINE.COM**

Metro Global Photo Challenge 2008

G.ONE MEDIA

"All the colours of an immaculate vibrant sunset, sweet corn fields and the silhouette of my Jetta cruising a country road."
Mauricio Tabares, Toronto

Invisible Car



"Graffiti represents perfectly today's urban life in which people can express their feelings and emotions. This photo represents the contrast between the city and the nature."
Audrey Des Roberts, Toronto

On The Road

Metro's Global Photo Challenge has drawn 3,890 entries from Toronto, Ottawa, Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton and Halifax, and 55,389 international entries. The Top 10 photos are on display at the CN Tower until Nov. 16. Vote for your favourite shot online at **metronews.ca/photochallenge** until Nov. 23. An international jury will judge the Top 5 photos, and the winner will receive a Nikon D700 DSLR and Nikon 24-70mm F2.8 zoom lens. The photos above are details of the entries. Visit the website to see the full image.

Local art shut out of new AGO?

David Moos, the Art Gallery of Ontario's chief curator for contemporary art, has had his hands full lately. And happily so. With the brand new AGO set to reopen later this week, Moos is luxuriating in the museum's reinvigorated commitment to his department.

Two floors of a new tower are given over to contemporary work, with a sprinkling of more throughout its eclectic collection: Old masters, boxwood sculptures and Group of Seven paintings. Then there's a new, $5-million endowment to acquire contemporary works, a luxury the museum has been without for a long, long time.

"Anywhere you go in this gallery, you're never far from contemporary art," said Moos recently.

"I don't feel like the AGO's only job is to respond to the artistic community here, but it's a big part of its job."
Jessica Bradley

On the day he spoke, commissioned pieces by up-and-coming local contemporary art stars Shary Boyle and Kent Monkman were being installed. "You're never far from a Toronto artist, either," said Moos. "And I'm proud of that."

But as the AGO prepares to reopen its doors, there's no shortage of concern on the part of a local art community that has often felt itself on the wrong side of the fortress walls.

To many artists here, the AGO has seemed impenetrable, splashing out on touring shows from big-name contemporary artists like Andy Warhol, or blockbuster historical shows, while the local art scene was given short shrift: Occasional group shows or marginal spaces.

"I don't feel like the AGO's only job is to respond to the artistic community here, but it's a big part of its job," says Jessica Bradley. Bradley served as the AGO's chief curator of contemporary art, Moos' position, until 2002; she now runs Jessica Bradley Art + Projects gallery, which represents Boyle as well as a slate of other emerging local artists.

"Toronto has the greatest concentration of artists in the country," Bradley says. "And for one reason or another we — and I don't just mean the institutions, though they're a huge part in that — have failed to make that evident to the public."

Some point to the eclecticism of a scene that defies easy representation. Others aim squarely at the AGO's conservative collection of board members and patrons who shied away from daring contemporary work and were quick to take their artistic cues from abroad.

Moos knows the critique. Part of the museum's role is to engage with the local scene, he says, but moreso to "serve as a platform" to vault some of those artists internationally. "And I think that's something we haven't already done a great job of in the past," he acknowledges.

"They should be writing the history of the Toronto art scene and collecting Toronto artists. To my mind, that's their mandate," says local artist Kelly Mark.

The gallery's confusion about its role is an easy solve, Mark says. "It's simple: Show more art and be involved in the community." **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

In brief

DEATH Authorities have identified the woman found dead in a parked car outside American Idol judge Paula Abdul's house as a fan and one-time show contestant. The woman, Paula Goodspeed, was found dead outside Abdul's house Tuesday evening, authorities said. The Los Angeles County Coroner's office says relatives identified her body yesterday morning. Goodspeed tried out for the fifth season of American Idol but the judges rejected her rendition of Proud Mary. Relatives of the 30-year-old reported her missing Tuesday afternoon. Police suspect her death was a suicide, though no official cause of death has been determined. Abdul was not home when the woman was found, but released a statement saying she was "deeply shocked and saddened." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Kardashian guest stars on How I Met Your Mother

Kim Kardashian made the transition from reality start to guest star yesterday, taping an appearance on the CBS sitcom How I Met Your Mother, a rep for the network has said. **PEOPLE.COM**

Geminis nab 90210 alum Priestley as host, new star Grimes as presenter

AWARDS Former 90210 hunk Jason Priestley will host this year's Gemini Awards, and he'll have current 90210 star Shenae Grimes helping out as a presenter.

Organizers say the pair will be among the stars appearing at the upcoming awards bash, which celebrates the best in Canadian television.

Other confirmed presenters include Christopher Bolton of Rent-a-Goalie and actress Natasha Henstridge.

The Vancouver-born Priestley gained celeb status in the 1990s when he starred on the teen soap drama Beverly Hills, 90210 as Brandon Walsh.

Toronto-born Grimes, formerly of Degrassi: The Next Generation, is now making similar waves on a modernized 90210 as the naive Annie Wilson.

The awards take place Nov. 28 in Toronto.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Connery top Bond

Brosnan No. 2, Goldfinger No. 1 villain

JIM REYNO
Metro Canada

When it comes to Bond, it's Sean. Sean Connery is the overwhelming favourite big-screen James Bond, according to Metro readers.

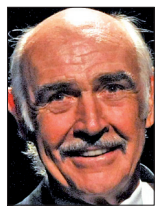
A recent Metro Life Panel survey found 45 per cent of worldwide respondents pick the bald Scot as the best Bond. Slick Pierce Brosnan is a distant second at 24 per cent. Stoic Roger Moore has 18 per cent support, followed by the abdominal-workout obsessed Daniel Craig, the current Bond.

There's also two guys on the poll named Timothy Dalton (two per cent) and George Lazenby (one per cent).

In terms of sex, Connery is the choice of both of them — 48 per cent of men, 43 per cent of women. Moore is No. 2 for guys (21 per cent), while women prefer Brosnan (29 per cent).

When you break the data down by country, nobody feels more passionately about anything than the Italians feel about Connery. He dominates the field, getting 62 per cent of the vote in Italy. No other Bond tops 15 per cent.

In Canada, we like the current Bond more than anyone else: 16 per cent of Canadian Metro readers take Craig. His next highest approval rating is in Sweden (14 per cent).


Sean Connery

Overall, 42 per cent of Canadians pick Connery as top Bond, followed by Brosnan (26 per cent), Craig (16) and Moore (14).

As for the Bond bad guys, Goldfinger (21 per cent) is the worldwide winner. In Canada, we prefer the steely mouthed, multi-film villain Jaws (23).

We're also the biggest Bond fans. Canada tops all 10 countries surveyed with 84 per cent of respondents who like Bond movies. Portugal (82 per cent) is next, followed by Denmark (76), Sweden (74), the U.S. (74), Hungary (73), Spain (72), the Netherlands (71), France (70), and Italy (68).

There were 5,598 respondents to the October survey.

First Lady shopping for publisher

BOOKS Laura Bush wants to write a memoir and will be meeting with several publishers, according to three publishing executives with knowledge of the proceedings.

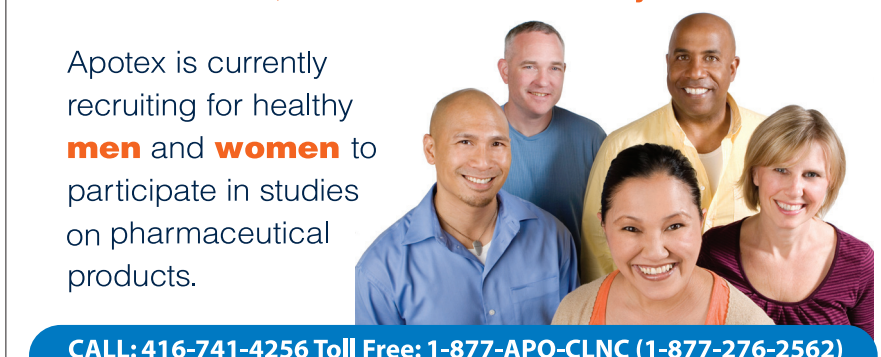
The sources asked not to be identified, saying discussions are in the early stages and are highly confidential.

They said the first lady is being represented by high-powered Washington lawyer Robert Barnett, whose clients include president-elect Barack Obama and former president Bill Clinton.

Barnett, who worked with Bush on a children's book published this year by HarperCollins, declined to comment Tuesday when contacted by The Associated Press.

An object of fascination even among those who didn't vote for her husband, the first lady has said little about her private life or her White House years. She's known as a passionate reader, and a book contract could rival Hillary Rodham Clinton's $8-million deal for 2003's Living History.

Sally McDonough, Laura Bush's spokeswoman, said Tuesday that the first lady "has expressed interest in writing a book after she leaves" the White House and is pursuing the prospect. But she would not discuss or confirm whether the first lady's private schedule has included any meetings with publishers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Former Friends star turned producer
Lisa Kudrow has signed on as executive producer of the U.S. version of Who Do You Think You Are? IMDB.COM

No apologies

Schirripa, Turturro rehash The Sopranos finale on eve of complete DVD box release

RICK MCGINNIS
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

Almost a year and a half after it aired, people are still talking about the controversial "cut to black" ending of HBO's The Sopranos, and the release this week of the massive, definitive complete DVD box set of the show will stir things up again.

Sitting in a Toronto hotel room entertaining a string of press to publicize the box set, cast members Steve Schirripa and Aida Turturro are as unrepentant as creator David Chase that it was the right way to go.

At the heart of it all, I suggest, I think people weren't as angry about Chase's audacity as much as the simple fact that it was over. The pair take this idea and toss it back and forth between them.

GETTY IMAGES
Sopranos stars Steve Schirripa and Aida Turturro in 2006.

"I think you're right," says Turturro. "They were unconsciously mad that it was over. But then there's the people who wanted closure. There's people who are like 'Did this happen? Did this happen? Tell me what happened!'"

"It's like what happens with Law & Order, which is a great show," adds Schirripa. "I'm not knocking L&O — we've all done them, terrific show. But you know that whatever happens in L&O, there's a guy dead at the beginning, there's a girl in the East River, by the end of the show it's going to be wrapped up in a nice bow. It's all gonna be resolved. Perry Mason years ago…"

"I loved Perry Mason."

"This is not how David Chase works," Schirripa says.

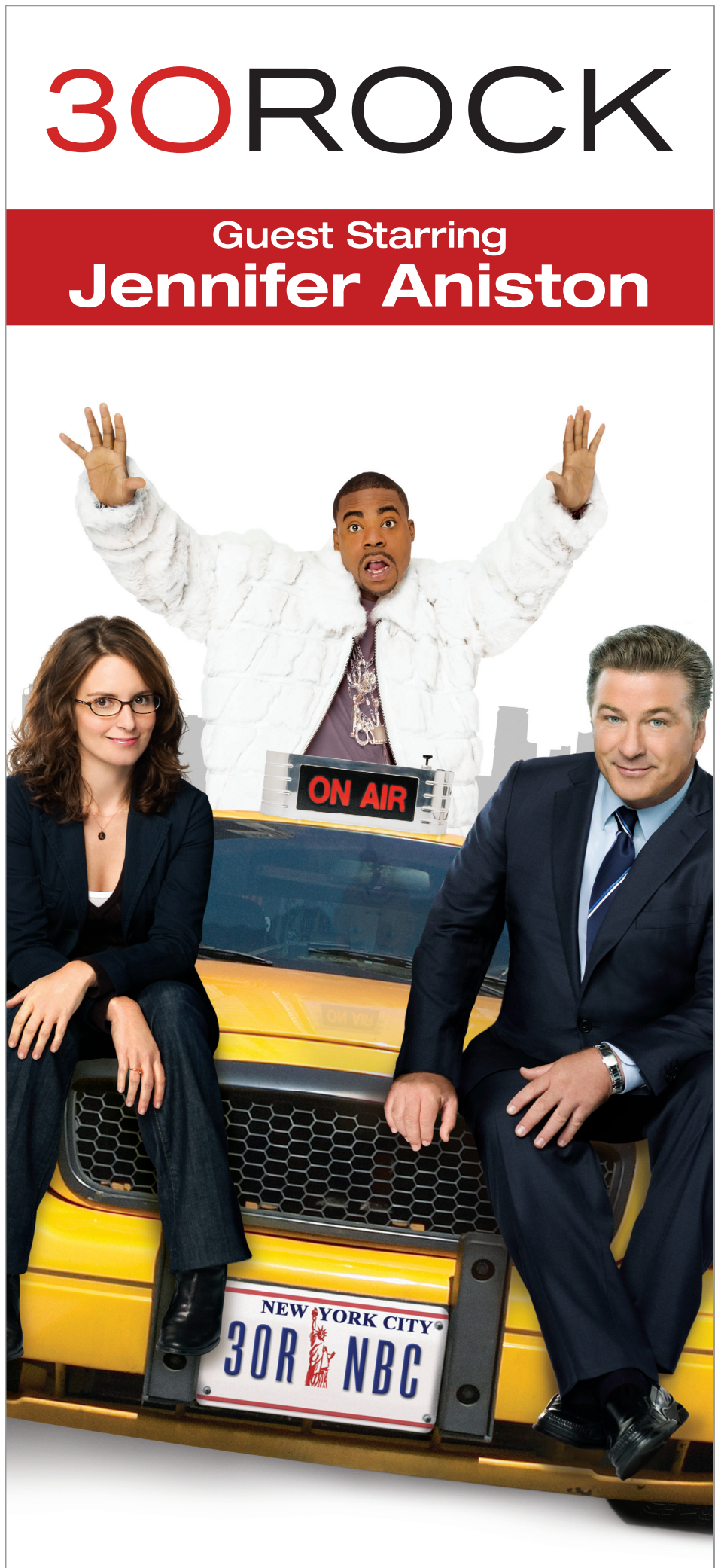
"And that's how life is," Turturro interjects. "Life doesn't just give you an answer. It's like whatever happened to that guy? Is the Russian coming back?"

"…the Russian, the Russian…"

"I know, he's gone…"

"'Are they gonna kill the rapist that raped Melfi?' What kind of sense does that make? She's a legitimate psychiatrist — is she suddenly gonna start having people whacked?"

"Yeah, right."



O'Donnell to host Ne-Yo, Morissette
Comedienne Rosie O'Donnell's upcoming variety special will feature musical guests Ne-Yo and Alanis Morissette. The one-hour NBC special, Rosie Live, will air on Nov. 26. PEOPLE.COM

Robbins has only self to blame for voting day difficulties: Official

Tim Robbins' difficulty in voting on election day was his own fault, New York City's Board of Elections maintains.

Board representative Gregory C. Soumas wrote a letter to Robbins, telling him that he was not on the rolls at the poll site he visited last week "because you simply went to the wrong poll site."

Soumas said Robbins filed a new voter registration form in February 2004, changing his voting address — which meant he had to vote elsewhere, about six blocks away.

The letter said Robbins should have gone to the new site and that this problem would have arisen earlier had Robbins voted in either the presidential primary in February or a second primary in September.

The confusion appears to stem from the double registration of Robbins — one his home address, the other his nearby office address — and the board eliminated one. The 50-year-old actor — a longtime resident of New York — strongly disagreed with the board's explanation.

He told The Associated Press he voted at his old polling place numerous times in recent elections and was never notified that he should vote anywhere else. "The system is in need of repair," said Robbins.

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Metcalfe takes a tumble
Actor Jesse Metcalfe was briefly hospitalized after falling from a second-storey balcony in Monaco on Sunday, but suffered "no long-term damage," according to his rep. PEOPLE.COM

Creation and destruction

IntelleVision

Rick McGinnis
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

BUT ISN'T THAT THE POINT? Tony Sirico's Paulie Walnuts was one of the best characters on HBO's The Sopranos — twitchy and volatile, constantly on the verge of a psychotic episode, he was a soothing reminder that, with guys like this around, the long-term viability of the Mafia would always be in doubt.

Not content with a character actor's career, Sirico has apparently put his name on a new cologne — Paolo Per Uomo — that's received a fairly scathing review from the New York Post, which took it out to Times Square to test out on New Yorkers.

"It reminds me of a hard night," said one young woman. "It's way too much. If you put it on, you have to air yourself out," said another.

"At first whiff, we were sipping wine with Tony and Big Pussy at the Bada Bing," wrote the Post's Raahkee Mirchandani, obviously warming to the task.

"A few more whiffs — and we sensed top notes of cigar ash and polyester jumpsuits with hints of stripper sweat and a cream-filled cannoli."

Paolo Per Uomo was unveiled at the Perfumers Choice Awards in Manhattan, and will be joined by an aftershave and deodorant, according to Sirico, though there's no news about whether they'll also smell "like every lasagna-loving, spaghetti-slurping mob boss wannabe or cheap imitation consigliere," as per the Post's description.

Evocative words, no doubt, but you have to wonder who would buy the stuff if it didn't.

LIKE JACKASS FOR STUPID PEOPLE...DID I JUST SAY THAT? Human Wrecking Balls is a new show on the G4 network in the U.S., where a pair of brothers demonstrates how to tear things apart using just their bare hands, shoulders and bodies, accompanied by the odd guest star, like the Danzig bassist who helps them wreck a hotel room.

See complete online movie listings, trailers, reviews and purchase tickets at metronews.ca/movies

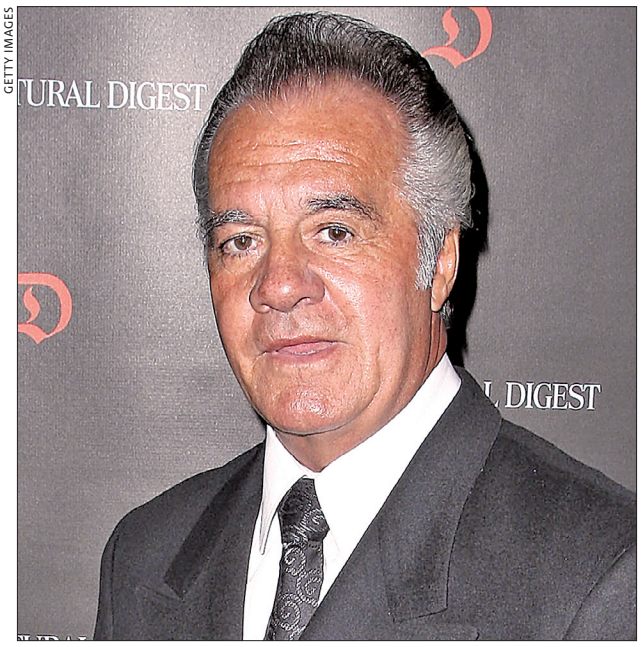
"A few more whiffs — and we sensed top notes of cigar ash and polyester jumpsuits ... "
New York Post's Raahkee Mirchandani

"An office, an '80s muscle car and a small airplane" are all the victims of the Pumphrey brothers' unique skill set, according to a USA Today story, while experts like a structural engineer offer the educational component, describing "the strength of the items being destroyed and the force needed to pulverize them."

This and a few cases of Red Bull could have a ripple effect on apartment leases and struggling relationships all over the country, if I know anything about young men with too much time on their hands.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

GETTY IMAGES



The Soprano's Tony Sirico has attached his name to a new cologne called Paolo Per Uomo.

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Grey's Anatomy adds cast members

CASTING With Brooke Smith's recent departure from the show, two newbies are prepping for Grey's Anatomy. Melissa George plays Sadie, one of Meredith's former college friends, while Mary McDonnell plays Dr. Dixon, a heart surgeon with Asperger's syndrome. Kevin McKidd is joining the show as a series regular, ABC reveals. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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TO		Vu	SC		C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	11/13/08	265	353	2	TVO	Megastructures		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		Foyle's War (Part 2 of 2)		Masterworks "Sketches of Frank Gehry"		
		211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Survivor: Gabon (N)		The Office (N)	Billable Hours	(10:01) Life on Mars		News (N)
		215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere Il	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
		210	302	6	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	The Nature of Things (N)		Doc Zone (HDTV) (N)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
		214	344	7	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Ugly Betty (N)		30 Rock	30 Rock	Stylista (N)		News (N)
		212	313	8	CTV	etalk	Dance	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Grey's Anatomy (N)		ER "Heal Thyself" (N)		News (N)
		218	345	11	E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	Name Is Earl	Kath & Kim (N)	*How I Married My High School Crush* (2007, Romance)				News (N)
		137	763	13	TFO	Panorama		Météo	Aventures	*Touchez pas au grisbi* ★★ (1954, Drame)			Folie-aventure	Volt
		-	-	14	-	Cold Case		News (N)		News (N)		2Half Men	King	Cold Case
		213	326	15	SUN	Scrubs	George Lopez	Smallville "Abyss" (N)		Supernatural (HDTV) (N)		To Serve and Protect		Grill Rm.
		-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Survivor: Gabon (N)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		(10:01) Eleventh Hour		News (N)
		-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Name Is Earl	Kath & Kim (N)	The Office (N)	30 Rock	ER "Heal Thyself" (N)		News (N)
		-	386	18	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Ugly Betty (N)		Grey's Anatomy (N)		(10:01) Life on Mars		News
		219	346	20	ACH-B	Instant Star	TMZ (N)	Medium "Head Games"		America's Next Top Model		(10:01) Eleventh Hour		News (N)
		-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy (N)	Two/Half Men	Kitchen Nightmares (N)		Kitchen Nightmares (N)		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
		-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	Goodnight Swt.	*The Last Emperor* ★★★★ (1987, Biography) John Lone, Joan Chen.					A Gathering of	Business Rpt.
		297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Countdown	NFL Football New York Jets at New England Patriots. From Gillette Stadium in Foxboro, Mass.						CW11 News
		296	654	331	SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dr. Phil (HDTV) (N)		WBZ News (N)	'70s Show	Frasier	Frasier	Punk'd
		298	653	332	TLA	Jamie Foxx	Wayans Bros.	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Family Guy	Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Smallville
news		502	390	26	NW	CBC News	Newman	The Hour Teri Horton.		CBC News: The National		The Adventurers (N)		National
		500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown: No Bias		CNN Presents "Escape From Jonestown" (N)				Cooper 360
		509	504	79	CNB	CNBC Reports				To Be Announced		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money
sports		405	417	22	net	FullTiltPoker.net		UFC: Access	Hockeycentral	Best Damn Sports Show		Sportsnet Connected		Hockey Central
		400	400	30	TSN	That's Hockey!	Madden Nation	NFL Football New York Jets at New England Patriots. (HDTV) (Live)						SportsCentre
		411	457	58	OLN	Ed's Up	Videos	Commando: On the Front Line		Survivorman		Pilot Guides Specials		Pilot Guides
		417	406	81	SC	NASCAR Racing: Truck Series		This Week in NASCAR (Live)		Pinks -- All Out (HDTV)		Wrecked	Wrecked	Pinks (HDTV)
family		551	542	25	YTV	H2O, Just Add	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mid.	Sabrina-Witch	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Adrenaline Proj	Mystery Hnt.
		554	544	45	TEL	George-Jungle	Bugs Bunny & Tweety Show		Wayside	Johnny Test	Futurama	The Critic	Robot Chicken	Code Monkeys
		556	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Naturally Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
cable variety		602	567	27	W	Will & Grace	Friends	Divine Design	House	Confidential	Save Us-House	Divine Design	Real Est	Love It-List It
		570	580	29	MM	Meet Barkers	disBand	Instant Star	Instant Star	Video on Trial	Instant Star	50 Cent: Money and Power		Muchmsc Ctdn
		615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		The First 48 "Silenced"		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		Crime 360
		700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Lo Sceicco Bianco (Italian).				Raymond	Raymond	George Lopez
		571	581	36	MMM	mmmtop	Back In	Freddie Mercury: Magic		Listed		Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	Party of Five
		575	583	38	CMT	CMA Awards Red Carpet		The 42nd Annual CMA Awards Festivities honor excellence in country music.						Red Carpet
		616	521	39	SHO	Painkiller Jane		ReGenesis (HDTV)		Trailer Park	Trailer Park	Saving Grace (HDTV)		House
		620	523	40	BVO	Desperate Housewives		Snapshot	In the Mind ...	*The Saddest Music in the World* (2003, Musical) (DVS)				Law & Order
		601	562	41	SLC	End of Leash	ET Canada	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		X-Weighted "Kristi"		The Biggest Loser		Rich Poor
		522	506	43	HIS	NCIS "Forced Entry"		Battlefield Mysteries		Battlefield Mysteries		NCIS "Forced Entry"		Bloody Italy
		625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	VIP	Choc. News	Daily Show
		600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Holmes on Homes		The Fix	Disaster DIY	Home to Flip	Real Renos (N)	Holmes-Homes
		294	529	47	TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	*Cliffhanger* ★★★ (1993, Action)		
		576	582	49	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live		*Wu: The Story of the Wu-Tang Clan* (2007, Documentary)				American Gangster		Judge Hatchett
		627	528	50	SPC	Lost "Maternity Leave"		Star Trek: Voyager		Battlestar Galactica		Chuck (HDTV)		Stargate SG-1
		581	566	52	MTV	Busted	After	MTV News	Cribs	The Hills	Girls-Latitude	Exiled Eastern Panama.		MTV Live
		618	524	54	TROP	Beverly Hills, 90210		Make or Break	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier	Family Guy
		603	561	56	FOOD	The Main	Chef at Home	Restaurant Makeover		Unwrapped	Secret Life of	Jamie's Kitchen Australia		Restaurant
		261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		Wait for God	Keeping Up	*Sergeant York* ★★★★ (1941, War) Gary Cooper, Walter Brennan.				
		621	527	63	STR	The Ellen DeGeneres Show		TMZ (N)	etalk	Look-A-Like	eTalk: Corner	The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		TMZ
		553	546	65	TRE	Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Nght Grdn	Toot & Puddle	Franklin	Little Bear	Maggie-Beast	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears
		115	711	101	TVA	La Fièvre de la danse (SC)		Occupation double			Vlog (SC)	TVA 22 heures	(10:45) Denis Lévesque	
		126	730	102	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal
		526	507	249	VIVA	Judging Amy		Commander In Chief		The West Wing		Passion	Homicide File	Psychic Inv.
		300	601	301	M1	(7:15) *Botched* (2007, Suspense) Stephen Dorff.				*Reservation Road* ★★ (2007, Drama) Joaquin Phoenix.				*Breaking*
		305	612	306	PIX	(7:15) *Buck and the Preacher* ★★★ (1972, Western)				*Octopussy* ★★★ (1983, Action) Roger Moore.				*Crosswinds*

critics'corner

The Saddest Music in the World
Isabella Rossellini stars in this offbeat 2003 musical comedy as a beer baroness in 1930s Winnipeg. She offers $25,000 to whoever can produce the world's most melancholy melody, drawing contenders from all over the globe, including a washed-up Broadway producer (Mark McKinney, "Kids in the Hall") and his brother (Ross McMillan), who's posing as a Serbian cellist. Maria de Medeiros and David Fox also star. 9 PM on BVO

Doc Zone
Remember when flying was a pleasant experience? Unless you can afford to go first class all the time, that's no longer the case. The new documentary "The Sky's the Limit" looks at the future of air travel — specifically, the impact that rising fuel costs, global climate change and the rise of the middle class in India and China are expected to have on the flying experience. It may just turn out that we'll go back to the days when only the well-off could fly. 9 PM on CBC

Sandler has another sequel

Adam Sandler and his wife have welcomed their second child, the comedian has announced. "Jackie and Adam had a beautiful baby girl, Sunny Madeline, on Nov. 2," Sandler posted on his website. "Everyone is happy and healthy." **PEOPLE.COM**

Celebrity Buzz

Will Brangelina add to the brood?

FAMILY Actors Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt are reportedly eager to adopt a child from South America, but they are finding it difficult to negotiate the complicated adoption laws, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The couple already has three adopted children: Maddox, 7, Pax, 4, and Zahara, 3. They also have three biological children: Shiloh, 2, and baby twins Knox and Vivienne.

"We've thought about South or Latin America, but it's very complicated," Jolie says. "Brad and I aren't married, so, as a technically single woman, there are lots of countries I can't adopt from. And, as a technically single man, most countries wouldn't allow Brad to adopt at all. Some countries won't let you adopt a child if you already have a child of the same gender at home."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Aniston says mind your own business

PRIVACY Jennifer Aniston has a simple message when it comes to her on-again relationship with John Mayer: "People need to mind their own business," the actress tells Vogue in its December issue, People.com reports.

Of course, Aniston, 39, understands why so many people are intrigued by their romance. There's the age difference — Mayer is eight years younger — and the musician's high-profile past relationships with starlets like Jessica Simpson. "Did you ever think Claudia Schiffer and David Copperfield made sense?" Aniston says.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Madonna's rules

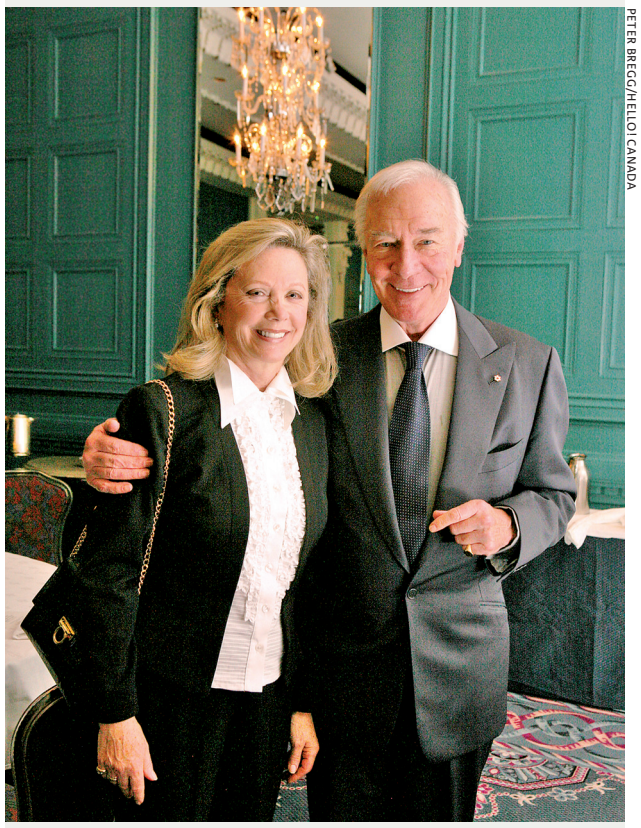
DIVORCE If Guy Ritchie wants to see his kids, he better follow the strict rules his estranged wife Madonna has laid down, PageSix.com reports. She demands that while Rocco, 8, and David, 3, are with their dad in London, they can't read newspapers or magazines, meet his girlfriends, or have their photograph taken, the Daily Mail reports.

Madonna also reportedly insists the boys drink only kabbalah water, wear clothes made from natural fibres, and play with "spiritually and ethically" sound toys.

Lourdes, Madonna's 12-year-old daughter by Carlos Leon, remains with her in New York.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

HELLO! Hot shot of the week



PETER BREGG/HELLO! CANADA

Canada's own Christopher Plummer poses with "my partner and my life," his wife of 40 years, Elaine, in Toronto. The veteran stage and screen actor recently released his memoir, In Spite of Myself, which candidly documents his love of drinking and, in his earlier years, womanizing. "I chose the naughty side of life," he tells HELLO! Canada.

HELLO! CANADA magazine, now available on newsstands – read more at hellomagazine.ca

Fergie feasts for filming

DIET Singer Fergie isn't worried about putting weight on this holiday season, usmagazine.com reports.

"I've actually gained 10 pounds!" she said. "No, really — for the film, Nine. Actually, 13 to be exact."

"I ate everything!" she continued. "Fish and chips. Everything fried — things I don't normally eat."

But now, she said, "I have to give it up! So, yeah, I'm in that phase! Back to diet designs — my food delivery service!"

Fergie also added that she doesn't have any post-holiday workout plans.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Farrell found it tough to take over Ledger role

LEGACY Colin Farrell, Johnny Depp and Jude Law hit headlines earlier this year when they stepped in to help finish Heath Ledger's final film The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus — but the decision to climb on board and bring to life his good friend's role was torment for Farrell, foxnews.com reports.

"It was a very difficult decision to make. When I first heard about it I totally freaked at the idea," Farrell said.

"But it was important to get Heath's work out and doing what I think Heath would have wanted, which was finishing the movie to its entirety."

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Nicole loves Keith!

SWEET LOVE Nicole Kidman has paid a gushing tribute to husband Keith Urban, imdb.com reports.

The couple wed in 2006. The actress couldn't hide her happiness at the Glamour awards show in New York on Monday, thanking her country star beau for loving her.

"Three-and-a-half years ago, a man came along and said, 'I'm going to take you to Tennessee.' And he took me down there and he said, 'I think you deserve to be loved. Let me love you, let me give you a home, and let's make a baby.' So thank you, Keith Lionel," Kidman said.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Blake has lots of baggage

STORAGE One of the best parts of being on Gossip Girl for Blake Lively is having nice handbags, People.com reports.

"I probably have, like, 60 gorgeous bags," the 21-year-old tells W in the December issue. "I have a closet with my really sharp, fancy, nice ones — the ones that go with my Valentino pumps, for example. And then I have a closet with the ones that are a little more rugged-feeling, the kind that go with my Belstaff motorcycle boots."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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the Bay

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>
> *Sue V.*

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Hillcrest Mall
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416 640 0234

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416 782 1309

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Saturday Rain or snow showers 6° / 2° 40%

Take Five

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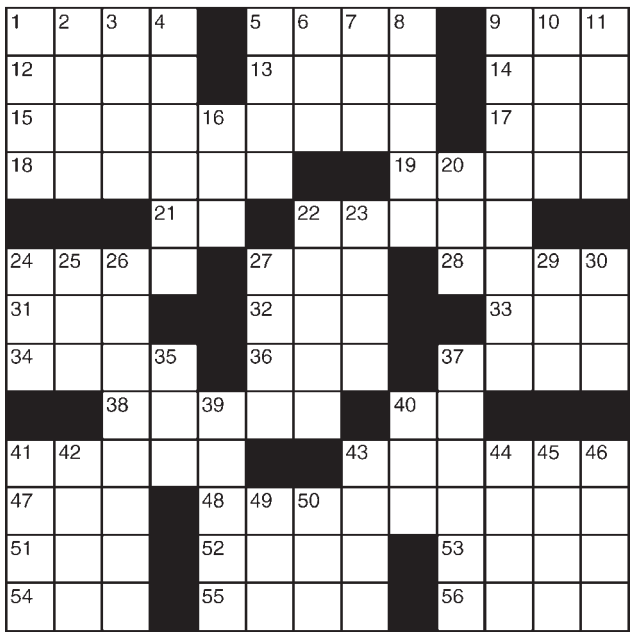

Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	8			4	2			
2	9			3		6		4
		3	9			8	5	
	3	6			4		2	1
			7		6			
9	4		1			5	6	
	7	1			5	3		
6		4		7			8	5
			4	8			7	

Crossword across

1 Ring out
5 Spud's buds
9 Crony
12 Malaria symptom
13 Freebie
14 Latin 101 word
15 It opens in the fall
17 Tier
18 Slowly
19 Out of dreamland
21 "People" competitor
22 Bob Woodward book
24 Put one over on
27 Foundation
28 Swindle
31 Historic time
32 Lubricant
33 Witness
34 Pink-slip
36 Exist
37 Nasty
38 Trophy, e.g.
40 Familiar greeting
41 Shaggy hairdos
43 Panda food
47 E.T.'s craft
48 Supreme
51 — Lanka
52 Object of devotion
53 Blue matter
54 Turf
55 Yield
56 Lhasa — (dog)

Crossword down

1 One of the Three Bears
2 "Zounds!"
3 Emanation
4 Group of teams
5 Reverberate
6 Thee
7 Ambulance VIP
8 Lance
9 Eden
10 Beyond control
11 Actor Rob
16 Opposite of "trans-"
20 Symbol of intrigue
22 Bizarre
23 Not working
24 Updated "groovy"
25 Spoon-bender Geller
26 Overly fearful
27 Piglets' pop
29 Meadow
30 Barbie's friend
35 Ram's mate
37 Champagne + O.J.
39 Jellied entree
40 Scenery chewer
41 Disarrange
42 Frizzy do
43 Curse
44 Dislodge
45 Responsibility
46 "Beetle Bailey" dog
49 Expert
50 Scepter

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

S	A	F	E	■	G	E	L	■	S	T	A	R		
I	C	O	N	■	O	L	E	■	T	H	E	E		
T	H	R	E	W	O	F	F	■	E	R	O	S		
S	E	E	M	E	D	■	T	A	L	E	N	T		
■	■	■	Y	E	S	■	S	O	L	E	■	■		
A	C	T	■	P	O	T	■	L	A	W	N	S		
D	A	H	L	■	N	O	H	■	R	A	I	L		
S	P	R	A	T	■	P	U	G	■	Y	A	Y		
■	■	E	X	A	M	■	N	O	D	■	■	■		
B	O	N	N	I	E	■	D	R	E	A	M	T		
A	L	O	E	■	T	H	R	E	S	H	E	R		
R	I	D	S	■	R	A	E	■	K	E	N	O		
T	O	Y	S	■	O	L	D	■	S	M	U	T		

1	9	4	2	6	5	8	3	7
3	6	2	4	7	8	1	9	5
8	7	5	1	9	3	6	2	4
5	1	8	3	2	7	4	6	9
9	3	6	5	1	4	2	7	8
2	4	7	9	8	6	5	1	3
7	5	3	6	4	2	9	8	1
6	8	9	7	5	1	3	4	2
4	2	1	8	3	9	7	5	6

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min .....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day

Spicy Broccoli and Cauliflower

INGREDIENTS:
5 cloves garlic
1 green chili pepper
2 tbsp (25 mL) olive oil
1 lb (500g) broccoli florets
1 lb (500g) cauliflower florets
2 oz (50g) Emmenthal cheese
2 oz (50g) Cheddar cheese
3 tbsp (45 mL) dried bread crumbs
2 tbsp (25 mL) capers
1–2 tbsp (15–25 mL) pickled green peppercorns
Salt and black pepper

METHOD:
1. Preheat the broiler and put a pot of water on to boil.
2. Peel and thinly slice garlic. Seed and chop chili pepper.
3. Heat oil in a frying pan or large wok with a lid. Add garlic and chili pepper, stir in broccoli and cauliflower florets, sprinkle with salt and pepper, and add 3/4 cup (150 mL) boiling water. Cover pan and cook vegetables over high heat for 4–5 minutes, until they are tender. Stir or toss halfway through cooking. Drain well.
4. Meanwhile, grate Emmenthal and Cheddar cheeses and mix them with bread crumbs.

5. Stir capers and peppercorns into vegetables. Transfer to a shallow flameproof dish, sprinkle cheese and bread crumb mixture over the top, and place under broiler until cheese melts and topping turns golden. Serve hot.

SERVES 4

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
A speaker has reservations about you. A group looks to you for support. A passionate encounter is ruined by bad timing.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
A dubious tale threatens a newfound friendship. A whiner gives up on optimism. A practical person puts away remorse.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Cut a long story short to steer clear of slippery slopes. A hidden opponent makes a conversion. Uncertainty about work continues.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Excessive responsibility can lead to arguments. An encounter in a corridor will end a bad situation. Exhausting events force your eyes open.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Everyone's talking about what's about to happen. Running wild affects your work prospects. You'll live up to your own expectations.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Winning an argument will be frustrating. Be truthful with a special person. A perky woman will do things properly.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A fateful meeting will be remembered. The cost of disagreeing is not worth it. Refuse to take part in cruel activities.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
Don't play rough with an immature guy. Ethical problems must be dealt with. A VIP impresses others with a new technique.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
A strong man is hiding something. A dramatic person frightens people. Lethargic daydreamers start to irritate you.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
Accept an invitation if you care about someone. Take a walk on the wild side. Bungling fails to amuse you.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Expect some good things to come your way. A helpful person single-handedly goes off track. Certainty develops about a messy romance.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Give someone extra respect and concede a loss. Other people won't argue unless you do. Avoid complaints after a spirited encounter.

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